SATURDAY
August 26, 2023

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Vol.54 • No.203

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AMARMANI TRIPATHI CASE

SC declines to stay premature release

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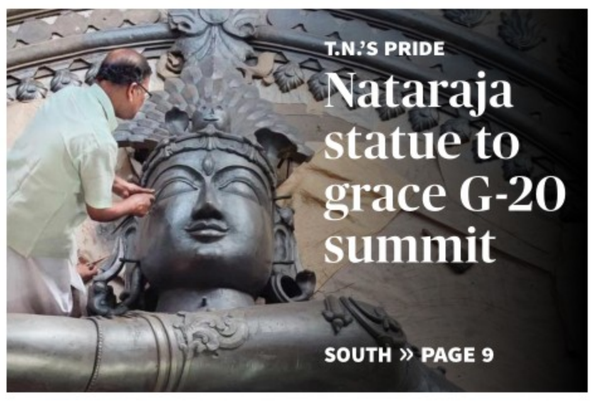

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Nataraja statue to grace G-20 summit

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'Respond to queries or will write to President'

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CASTE VIOLENCE

Fear grips SCs in T.N.'s Nanguneri following assault

How lives of those on the fringes are affected

GROUND ZERO » PAGE 11

SEALING IT

Neeraj qualifies for 2024 Olympics

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NEARBY

SC seeks report on Cauvery water release, availability

NEW DELHI
The Supreme Court on Friday directed the Cauvery Water Management Authority to submit a report on status of discharge of the river water by Karnataka to Tamil Nadu, especially its availability for the next fortnight. » PAGE 8

NIMHANS to set up brain and mind museum

BENGALURU
To improve awareness of neurosciences and mental health as well as decode functioning of the brain, NIMHANS is working on setting up a brain and mind museum.

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PROPERTYPLUS » PAGE 7

SC shifts 27 CBI cases in Manipur to Assam

Top court asks Gauhati HC Chief Justice to nominate judicial officers to take charge of the pre-trial processes; petitioners object to the transfer

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday asked Gauhati High Court Chief Justice Sandeep Mehta to nominate one or more judicial officers in Assam to take charge of the pre-trial processes in 27 cases related to the ethnic violence in Manipur, including crimes committed against women and children, which were transferred to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

A three-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud passed the order on an application filed by Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Union government and the investigating agency.

Mr. Mehta indicated that judicial officers may belong to one tribal community or the other, and pre-trial hearings may cause a furore or an apprehension of bias in a State which was still restive after months of ethnic violence. Mr. Mehta said Assam was chosen in consultation with the CBI because the two States share a common border.

Petitioners, including victims represented by senior advocate Colin Gonsalves, raised objections. They said the pre-trial processes could be carried out either in Manipur or some other nearby State. They asked why Assam, which has a BJP government, was considered.

CONTINUED ON
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Worry raised: The Solicitor-General told the court that the pre-trial hearings may cause an apprehension of bias in Manipur. AFP

Xi wants both countries to handle border issue properly

Ananth Krishnan
Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

China's Foreign Ministry said early on Friday that its President Xi Jinping told Prime Minister Narendra Modi during talks on Wednesday that both sides "should bear in mind the overall interests" of ties and "handle properly the border issue".

Beijing also said that the meeting between the leaders, on the sidelines of the BRICS summit in Johannesburg, came "at the request" of Mr. Modi. Informed sources, however, clarified that while India had sought an informal conversation with China, it had rejected a pending Chinese request for a more structured bilateral meeting between the two leaders.

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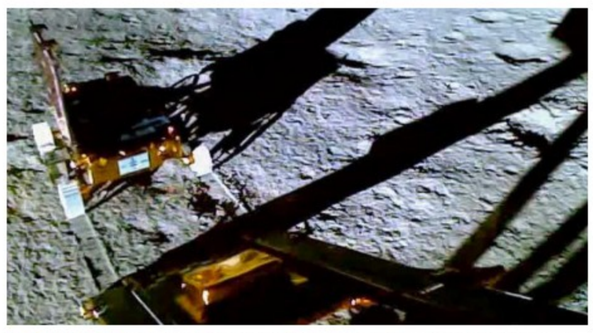

A giant leap: The Pragyan rover's touchdown on the lunar surface, as observed by the Lander Imager Camera, on Wednesday. PTI

Pragyan traverses 8 metres on moon

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Giving a much-awaited glimpse of Pragyan, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on Friday said the rover successfully traversed a distance of around eight metres on the lunar surface.

The ISRO released two videos of Pragyan, two days after the Vikram lander of Chandrayaan-3 made a historic soft-landing near the South Pole of the moon. The first video shows the rover rolling out of the lander onto the lunar surface. The video was captured by the Lander Imager Camera on Wednesday. The second video shows the deployment of the ramp from the lander and the deployment of the solar panel of the rover. "A two-segment ramp facilitated the roll-down of the rover. A solar panel enabled the rover to generate power," the ISRO said on X (formerly Twitter).

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NEAR SIDE OF THE MOON
» PAGE 13

PM's roadshow in Bengaluru cancelled

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's roadshow that had been planned by the BJP Karnataka unit, during his visit to ISRO on Saturday to congratulate scientists for the success of Chandrayaan-3, stands cancelled. This comes within a day of the party State unit announcing the event.

The party had announced that Mr. Modi, who will be arriving in the city from Athens, Greece, would hold a roadshow for about a kilometre near ISRO's Telemetry, Tracking, and Command Network in Peenya.

However, police sources said the roadshow has been cancelled as the Prime Minister's Office did not clear it. As per the plan, Mr. Modi will land at HAL airport at 6 a.m. on Saturday.

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GETTY IMAGES

I'm going to give it my all in the US Open. If things go great, that's exciting. If not, I go back and work hard and get ready for the next one. That's kind of the mentality you have to have
GAUFF

She's the best athlete on the tour, she's an Olympic sprinter with a racquet in her hand. Mentally, she has it. Her backhand is money, her volley is great
RICK MACCI
Veteran coach

She's already near the top, but there is a lot of room to get better
PERE RIBA
Gauff's coach

Will the Summer of Coco extend to Flushing Meadows?

After an opening-round defeat at Wimbledon, the 19-year-old Gauff has been the player to beat on the North American hard-court swing. If she can maintain this form, the World No. 6 will be a formidable threat at the US Open over the next fortnight

Reuters
Associated Press

Stung by a first-round exit at Wimbledon this year, Coco Gauff spent a "a lot of nights crying and trying to figure it all out".

The American teenage prodigy had been picked out for greatness by several tennis luminaries, including 18-time Major winner Chris Evert. But while Gauff's credentials of being a world-class player were never in doubt – she has been a regular feature in the WTA top 10 since September 2022 – people were beginning to talk about her lack of progress in Grand Slam events. The criticism peaked after the loss to Sofia Kenin on the grass at SW19.

"I told myself I can either let this crush me or make me rise and I decided to make myself rise from it," Gauff said. She vowed to channel the frustration she felt into improving her game as she continued her quest for a Grand Slam breakthrough. "I have to go back to the drawing board and see where I need to improve," she said in London.

Renewed vigour

After a period of introspection and problem-solving, Gauff hit the North American hard courts ahead of the US Open with renewed vigour.

The results show that her process is working. Since the despair of Wimbledon, the 19-year-old has won 11 of 12 matches. She was victorious in Washington DC, her first 500-level title, and reached the quarters in Montreal before completing the biggest triumph of her young career in Cincinnati, a 1000-level event where she beat World No. 1 Iga Swiatek for the first time.

I was just telling myself, 'You're a warrior, you can do this.' I felt from the moment I stepped on court that I wasn't going to lose even when it got tough. It shows that I can be at that level
COCO GAUFF
After beating No. 1 Iga Swiatek

Gauff became the youngest winner of the Cincinnati WTA title and the first teenager to notch up five career titles since Caroline Wozniacki in 2008-09. On this form, the World No. 6 looks poised to be a real threat at Flushing Meadows, where the final Major of the year – the US Open – starts on Monday.

So what has Gauff done to elevate her game since the start of the hard-court swing?

She acknowledged after the defeat to Kenin that her forehand, which opponents were targeting successfully, needed work.

It was a line of analysis other experts had forwarded as the reason for her struggles, as well. Veteran coach Rick Macci, who has worked with the likes of Venus and Serena Williams, Maria Sharapova, Jennifer Capriati and Andy Roddick, told OLBG, a sports betting community, that Gauff's vulnerable forehand needed a technical overhaul while her serve could do with "rewiring".

"For me, she's the best athlete on the tour, she's an Olympic sprinter with a racquet in her hand," Macci said. "Mentally, she has it. Her backhand is money, and her volley is great. The serve, I would rewire slightly, it's loose, it's big, it's free, but it isn't quite as good as it could be.

"The muscle memory on the forehand has been there for so long. If she took a bit of time out and modified that, she would have so much ability... A completely new stroke ... would fully change her career. It could go from her weakest shot to her best shot."

Putting in the work

Gauff has worked with new coach Pere Riba on altering her footwork so she consistently gets into better positions to strike the forehand and use it as a weapon. "She's already near the top, but there is a lot of room to get better," said Riba, a former top-100 player. An excellent defender who can stay in rallies, Gauff wants to dictate terms more often in a match – she is looking to strengthen her first-strike capability, knowing how much more formidable that would make her.

"I should be playing that aggressive style, focusing on my serve plus one," Gauff said, referring to the first two shots of a point. "There are times I've served 126 mph, [but] I'm not going to hit 126 every time. But I definitely want to increase my first-serve speed average. It's not that I can't get there; it's that sometimes I need to trust in it. So it's committing on the serve every single point."

These improvements were shown off to spectacular effect in Cincinnati, especially during the semifinal win over Swiatek, the dominant force in women's tennis. Gauf had never taken a set off the Pole in seven previous meetings, which included a heartbreaking loss in the 2022 Roland Garros final. The teenager had to win to turn the corner psychologically, to truly believe she could beat the very best.

Gauff served big and played sensational defence to secure a hard-fought victory, overcoming several moments of doubt during the tight three-setter. "I knew playing her was going to be tough, nothing was going to be given to me," she told Tennis Channel. "I took my opportunities when I got them and just fought for every point. I was a little negative in the second set but I got it back and I was just telling myself, 'You're a warrior, you can do this.'

"I was just saying, 'I'm Coco Gauff and I can do it.' I felt from the moment I stepped onto the court that I wasn't going to lose this match even when the moments got tough. It shows that I can be at that level... and I still think that I'm not even at the peak of my game."

Growing into her game

Gauff, who made her pro debut as a 15-year-old, does not expect to peak until her mid-20s. "Most tennis players ... are peaking around 22 to 26. I started so young, so I wasn't really strong enough to hit and close the point. In juniors, I was a very aggressive player. But some things that were winners in juniors are not winners in pros. So I had to rely on [my defence] just to stay in matches. Now I feel like I have the strength and mentality to execute those offensive shots."

Having had to deal with the weight of expectations for most of her young life, Gauff does not want to engage with predictions that she will break through at the US Open.

She is choosing instead to focus on the process that has helped her play her best tennis during the hard-court swing.

"I believe in just, you give it your all," she said. "That's all you can do. I'm going to give it my all in the US Open. If things go great, that's exciting. If not, I go back and work hard and get ready for the next one. That's kind of the mentality you have to have."

STACKING UP

ATP Men's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Carlos Alcaraz	20	9,815	17
2	Novak Djokovic	36	9,795	19
3	Daniil Medvedev	27	6,260	22
4	Holger Rune	20	4,790	22
5	Casper Ruud	24	4,715	24
6	Jannik Sinner	22	4,645	22
7	Stefanos Tsitsipas	25	4,580	23
8	Andrey Rublev	25	4,515	25
9	Taylor Fritz	25	3,605	26
10	Frances Tiafoe	25	3,050	22
11	Karen Khachanov	27	2,845	19
12	Alexander Zverev	26	2,670	21
13	Alex de Minaur	24	2,595	24
14	Tommy Paul	26	2,570	25
15	Felix Auger-Aliassime	23	2,375	22

Top Indians ▶

Sumit Nagal
Rank 190 ▲ 1 spot

Mukund Sasikumar
Rank 354 ▼ 1 spot

WTA Women's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Iga Swiatek	22	9,955	19
2	Aryna Sabalenka	25	8,746	17
3	Jessica Pegula	29	5,945	19
4	Elena Rybakina	24	5,670	20
5	Ons Jabeur	28	4,831	17
6	Coco Gauff	19	4,595	20
7	Caroline Garcia	29	3,820	24
8	Maria Sakkari	28	3,585	23
9	Marketa Vondrousova	24	3,400	17
10	Karolina Muchova	27	2,995	18
11	Petra Kvitova	33	2,920	16
12	Barbora Krejcikova	27	2,840	19
13	Daria Kasatkina	26	2,780	26
14	Liudmila Samsonova	24	2,745	24
15	Belinda Bencic	26	2,605	19

Top Indians ▶

Ankita Raina
Rank 182 ▲ No change

Karman Thandi
Rank 211 ▲ 4 spots

F1 Drivers' standings

#	Driver	Team	Points	Wins
1	Max Verstappen	Red Bull	314	10
2	Sergio Perez	Red Bull	189	2
3	Fernando Alonso	Aston Martin	149	0
4	Lewis Hamilton	Mercedes	148	0
5	Charles Leclerc	Ferrari	99	0
6	George Russell	Mercedes	99	0
7	Carlos Sainz	Ferrari	92	0
8	Lando Norris	McLaren	69	0
9	Lance Stroll	Aston Martin	47	0
10	Esteban Ocon	Alpine	35	0
11	Oscar Piastri	McLaren	34	0
12	Pierre Gasly	Alpine	22	0
13	Alex Albon	Williams	11	0
14	Nico Hulkenberg	Haas	9	0
15	Valtteri Bottas	Alfa Romeo	5	0
16	Zhou Guanyu	Alfa Romeo	4	0
17	Yuki Tsunoda	AlphaTauri	3	0
18	Kevin Magnussen	Haas	2	0
19	Logan Sargeant	Williams	0	0
20	Daniel Ricciardo	AlphaTauri	0	0

Max Verstappen

Sergio Perez

F1 Constructors' standings

Pos	Team	Points	Wins
1	Red Bull	503	12
2	Mercedes	247	0
3	Aston Martin	196	0
4	Ferrari	191	0
5	McLaren	103	0
6	Alpine	57	0
7	Williams	11	0
8	Haas	11	0
9	Alfa Romeo	9	0
10	AlphaTauri	3	0

Badminton Men's ranking

#	Player	Points	Events
1	Viktor Axelsen	107,305	13
2	Anthony Sinisuka Ginting	87,211	17
3	Kunlavut Vitidsarn	77,778	16
4	Kodai Naraoka	76,915	22
5	Jonatan Christie	72,571	15
6	Li Shi Feng	71,448	20
7	Loh Kean Yew	71,262	20
8	Shi Yu Qi	70,524	19
9	Prannoy H. S.	70,437	19
10	Chou Tien Chen	64,317	21
11	Lakshya Sen	59,581	20
12	Anders Antonsen	57,110	14
13	Lee Zii Jia	56,576	19
14	Lu Guang Zu	55,510	18
15	Kenta Nishimoto	55,027	22

Top Indians ▶

Prannoy H. S.
Rank 9

Lakshya Sen
Rank 11

Badminton Women's ranking

#	Player	Points	Events
1	An Se Young	103,914	15
2	Akane Yamaguchi	101,917	16
3	Chen Yu Fei	92,116	14
4	Tai Tzu Ying	89,286	13
5	He Bing Jiao	83,274	16
6	Carolina Marin	76,890	16
7	Ratchanok Intanon	67,623	17
8	Gregoria Mariska Tunjung	64,661	20
9	Han Yue	64,548	21
10	Beiwen Zhang	60,470	21
11	Wang Zhi Yi	56,670	16
12	Pornpawee Chochuwong	55,729	20
13	Busanan Ongbamrungphan	53,444	13
14	Michelle Li	52,711	19
15	P.V. Sindhu	51,770	17

Top Indians ▶

P.V. Sindhu
Rank 15

Saina Nehwal
Rank 38

Test Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Kane Williamson	883	919
2	Joe Root	859	923
3	Steve Smith	842	947
4	Babar Azam	829	882
5	Marnus Labuschagne	826	937
6	Travis Head	818	884
7	Usman Khawaja	796	847
8	Daryl Mitchell	792	800
9	Harry Brook	773	773
10	Rohit Sharma	759	813

Test Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	R. Ashwin	879	904
2	Kagiso Rabada	825	902
3	Ravindra Jadeja	782	899
4	Stuart Broad	776	880
5	Pat Cummins	775	914
6	Shaheen Afridi	762	836
6	Ollie Robinson	762	820
8	James Anderson	761	903
9	Nathan Lyon	760	799
10	Jasprit Bumrah	756	835

ODI Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Babar Azam	880	898
2	Rassie van der Dussen	777	796
3	Imam-ul-Haq	752	815
4	Shubman Gill	743	743
5	Fakhar Zaman	740	784
6	Harry Tector	726	726
6	David Warner	726	880
8	Quinton de Kock	718	813
9	Virat Kohli	705	911
10	Steve Smith	702	752

ODI Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Josh Hazlewood	705	733
2	Mitchell Starc	686	783
3	Mujeeb Ur Rahman	680	712
4	Rashid Khan	679	806
5	Mohammed Siraj	670	736
6	Matt Henry	667	691
7	Trent Boult	660	775
8	Adam Zampa	652	655
9	Shaheen Afridi	633	688
10	Kuldeep Yadav	622	765

T20I Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Suryakumar Yadav	889	910
2	Mohammad Rizwan	811	875
3	Babar Azam	756	896
4	Aiden Markram	748	796
5	Rilee Rossouw	724	724
6	Dawid Malan	705	915
7	Muhammad Waseem	691	716
8	Devon Conway	688	831
9	Aaron Finch	680	900
10	Jos Buttler	670	674

T20I Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Rashid Khan	713	816
2	Josh Hazlewood	690	806
3	Wanindu Hasaranga	686	797
4	Maheesh Theekshana	684	684
4	Adil Rashid	684	746
6	Adam Zampa	678	743
7	Fazalhaq Farooqi	677	692
8	Mujeeb Ur Rahman	676	745
9	Sam Curran	673	688
10	Anrich Nortje	667	695

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Buying onions might leave customers teary-eyed unless weather is good

Onion prices at APMC have jumped by 50-60% in the last 15 days, say traders. In retail markets, the prices have gone up from ₹30 to ₹40-45 a kg

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

After record-breaking prices, cost of tomatoes just started to return to normality. Before the consumers can let out a sigh of relief, it seems like onion prices might shoot up in the upcoming months up to ₹70-80 per kg, if the weather plays a spoilsport. On Friday, at the onion mandi in the Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) yard in Yeshwantpur, a kg of onion was selling between ₹26 and ₹32.

At the onion mandi at the Agricultural Produce Market Committee yard at Yeshwantpur, a kg of onion was being sold at anywhere between ₹26-₹32 on Friday. JAHNAVI T.R.

The prices of onion at the APMC have jumped by 50-60% in the last 15 days, say APMC traders. Even in retail markets, the prices have gone up from ₹30 per kg to ₹40-45 per kg. Though these prices are considered stable, it might vary depending on the arrivals from other parts of the State, which are expected in the second half of the next month.

Delayed harvest

The region around Chitradurga, especially Challakere, is the major onion-growing region. Other places like Davangere, Vijayapura, Gadag, Hubballi and Belagavi also have some onion growers. However, with monsoon not gaining pace, the harvest season has been delayed by one and a half months. Even the leading onion-growing States of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh have been affected by deficient rainfall. This has resulted in over-dependence on the old stock arriving from Ahmed Nagar and Nashik in Maharashtra.

"By this time, around 30,000-40,000 bags of onion used to arrive here every day from Chitradurga and Chellakere. This year, we are getting hardly 1,000 bags a day. If the rain is kinder in September, then it will be good for the onion crop. But if it rains heavily in October or November, the arrivals will reduce even more," B. Ravi Shankar, an onion merchant in APMC as well as the secretary of Onion Merchants Association of Bengaluru told *The Hindu*.

Discolouration

Around 10-20% of onions to the APMC yard comes from Vijayapura. But as the bulbs are from the summer harvest, there is discolouration, merchants said. The same issue plagues onions coming from Maharashtra as it is old stock too. The discolouration and black spots is a cause of concern for the retail traders too as customers refuse to buy them. This has created an artificial supply issue in the market.

However, in case of unfavourable weather conditions, there will definitely be a supply crunch, say traders. "If onions do not come from other parts of the State, we would have to depend on the old stock which is currently coming in from Maharashtra and Gujarat until January next year," Mr. Shankar said. "Now, the quality of onions is quite average and even then, the sales have been good. In the next two months, if supply falls, then the prices will double, if not more," said Nataraj, another onion merchant.

Monsoon is not the only factor plaguing onion growers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

It has been three years since onion growers in the State got decent returns on the vegetable.

"The last three years, there was too much rain and the onions rotted away in the ground itself. This year, it is the opposite, and the plants are going dry in the heat," said Mallikarjun, president, Rajya Raitha Sangha, Chitradurga.

He said that these unpredictable weather patterns stopped many farmers from sowing onions this time.

40% duty on exports

He said while there was a 50-60% decrease in Challakere, overall, 40% of farmers in Chitradurga decided to not grow onions this year.

He pointed out that the government's latest decision to impose 40% duty on the exports of onions has also discouraged farmers.

"A day before the announcement of the excise duty, the price for a quintal of onions was between ₹2,600 - ₹3,500. However, two days after that, the price fell to ₹1,800 - ₹2,600 per quintal. This might be the government's way of regulating the price, but they are taking extra money now (as tax) from farmers who have already been burdened with heavy losses and loans," Mallikarjun lamented.

Record price

The Union government, earlier this week, had announced that onions will be bought for a record price of ₹2,410 per quintal to pacify the farmers who were protesting about the levy of duty on exports. The farmers from Karnataka are also looking forward to this now.

CCB sleuths arrest two more in Lankan nationals' case

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Sleuths from the Central Crime Branch (CCB) have arrested two more individuals in connection with the Sri Lankan nationals' case.

The arrested are Mansoor, a resident of Chennai and Anbazhagan, a resident of Viveknagar in Bengaluru. They were assisting the three Sri Lankan nationals - wanted for multiple murders back home in Sri Lanka, arrested in the city - to flee the country.

CCB sleuths trying to nab absconding rowdy sheeter Jai Paramesh, 42, stumbled upon three Sri Lankan nationals - Kasan Kumara Sanka, 36, Amila Nuwan, 36 and Ranga Prasad, 36 - he was harbouring in a flat in Yelahanka and arrested all four of them.

It has now emerged that the kingpin is Jalal alias Siddique, also a Sri Lankan national running an organised drug racket in the island nation, mainly dealing with heroin. He also had a case against him in Chennai 20 years ago, sources said.

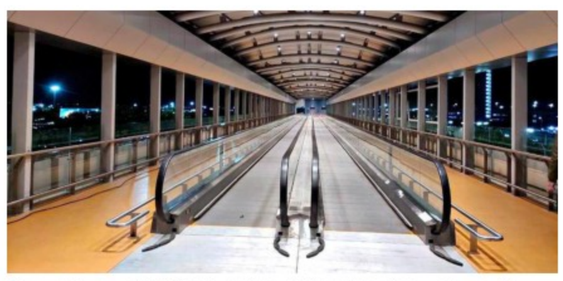
Jalal, through his benamis, runs a LED bulb factory on the outskirts of Bengaluru, where Jai Paramesh had been working as a driver earlier.

The three Sri Lankan nationals, now arrested by CCB, are suspected to be his associates, essentially his hit squad and wanted in Sri Lanka for multiple murders.

Investigations now reveal it was Jalal who assigned the safe keep of the trio in Bengaluru to Jai Paramesh, till their transit to Nepal was organised. Mansoor, from Chennai, was tasked to provide the trio ₹50 lakh for the journey and Anbazhagan from Vivek Nagar tasked with creating fake passports with new identities for them. CCB sleuths have arrested both.

Meanwhile, Jalal alias Siddique, is suspected to be based out of Oman, where unconfirmed reports suggest he has been detained by the local police there.

KIA gets elevated walkway for passengers



The walkway at KIA features travelators (moving walkways), elevators, and escalators.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A new elevated walkway for the convenience of passengers and visitors has been opened at Kempegowda International Airport. The new walkway connects Terminal 1 to P4 parking.

The 420-metre walkway is designed to deliver a seamless experience to pedestrians who are walking either towards Terminal 1 or towards P4 parking. The walkway features travelators (moving walkways), elevators and escalators.

Airport operator BIAL claims that the design prioritises accessibility, user-friendly for senior citizens, and persons with reduced mobility.

The walkway has adequate lighting throughout the night to ensure a secure and comfortable environment. Passengers can use the fully covered and climate-protected walkway in all-weather conditions.

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GETTY IMAGES

‘Asian Games a litmus test for Paris 2024’

The continental competition with several strong contenders will tell Indian table tennis where it stands ahead of the Olympics, says Sharath Kamal. He also feels the performance at Hangzhou will shape the sport’s future in the country — it could determine the funding for the next cycle

INTERVIEW

A. Sharath Kamal

He has been the torch-bearer of Indian table tennis for almost two decades. At 41, A. Sharath Kamal is still setting his sights high. After impressing in season four of Ultimate Table Tennis and reclaiming the Inter-Institution singles crown this week, Sharath is eyeing a podium finish at the Asian Games, which begins in Hangzhou next month. In a freewheeling chat during UTT, he dwelt on the Asian Games’ importance, his future and the state of Indian table tennis. *Excerpts:*

Are you confident of repeating the Jakarta heroics [India won two medals] in Hangzhou?

The main goal is to get back those two [bronze] medals at least – team and mixed doubles. I can talk about teams. Mixed doubles, I can’t talk for them [G. Sathiyan and Manika Batra]. For me, it’s the teams. And it’s quite important because I

> [The Asian Games is] quite important because the whole funding for the next cycle will depend on what’s going to happen now

guess the whole funding for the next cycle will depend on what’s going to happen now. And also it will be, let’s say, a litmus test for the Olympic Games. So if you are able to get a medal at the Asian Games, then we can confidently say that we could get a medal at the Olympic Games also.

How tough will defending the Asian Games team medal be?

Very, very tough. The draw plays a very vital part because we will be seeded 5 to 8. China – even the No. 2 team has a tough time beating them. And apart from that, there is Korea, Japan and Chinese Taipei... individual players, we have beaten them here and there, but as a team, three players collectively need to beat the three of them on that particular day. That is tougher.

The team selection has stirred a debate over the last few months. How do you look at it?

I am actually not looking at it so much. I am trying to stay away from it because I know that this is going to be one of my final years of playing the sport. Yes, I am saying it. A lot of people still believe I can go into, you know, the next few years. A lot of them are actually talking about LA [Los Angeles] 2028. But for me, it’s quite tough to keep up, especially mentally, and [my] personal life is also taking a hit. So for me, it’s like, ‘OK, this is what I have at this point in time, so I need to get the best out of it’. One thing I have understood over the last few years is that controversies come, a lot of disturbance is created in the environment around the players, around the management and the only thing that can do is make you play bad. That’s a guarantee. So how I have tried to do better despite this is to stay away from all of it. Of course, I know what the situation is. People talk about it, but I try not to spend too much energy [on it]. At the same time, I am also an IOA [Indian Olympic Association] Athletes Commission member. These problems in table tennis are very small compared to the problems out there.

When you started, selection was mostly based on the opinions of one or two individuals. Now an Excel sheet could well decide the team. How do you strike a balance?

See, 2010 Commonwealth Games onwards, they formulated a decent plan or selection criteria – a points system which would give 50 points to the domestic ranking, 30 points to the international ranking, 20 points to the coach. It was quite effective and things were quite fair at that point in time. Today, the team selection, I would say, is not biased. But at the same time, the coaches’ inputs have to be given good weightage because the coach is not

> [When] controversies come, a lot of disturbance is created in the environment around the players... the only thing that can do is make you play bad. That’s a guarantee

thinking for himself, he is thinking for the team. He is looking at developing the team. The coach has to be accountable, too.

Looking at the multiple sports sitting in the IOA, I can clearly see that everybody has a problem. You do this, that is a problem. You do that, this is also a problem. So people are less considerate these days. They just want to say, ‘This is not fair for me’. Are they even thinking about what they are talking? Ten years ago, nobody would even dare to speak against the federation. Now it’s come to the other extreme where I am just going to talk against the federation. You know, there is no balance, there is no compromise or collaboration where the players and the federation and the stakeholders are working in tandem, together.

So I feel that is a very grey area where the IOA and SAI [Sports Authority of India] will have to step in and ... get things sorted with the federation and players.

Each federation will have a different selection criteria... I guess as authorities who are funding [the sport], some amount of accountability has to be there and this would be an important role. If they say, I am going to give 50% for my domestic weightage and only 30% for the international weightage, then you are pressuring people to play more domestic and the international ranking will not go up. So how do you find the balance?

If you give 40 and 40, is it good enough? Or like badminton, everybody goes and plays the international circuit? Nobody has a national ranking. So your national ranking tournaments are like, who are you doing it for? So that balance and understanding, the federation will have and they will have to explain it to the IOA and SAI because each game is different.

So to bridge that gap, do you think it’s high time Indian table tennis had either a General Manager or a High Performance Director, someone who can be the link between the players and the honorary office-bearers?

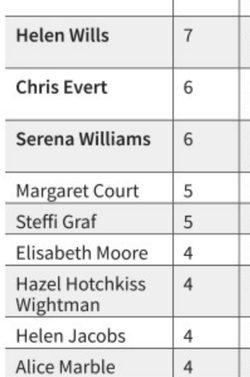
Yes, HPD is the need of the hour. There are a few posts which are the need of the hour. The coach, it’s been almost five years without a permanent senior head coach. We are doing makeshifts with the Indian coaches. Of course, [Table Tennis Federation of India secretary] Kamlesh [Mehta] sir is trying his level best to have Subhajit [Saha] and Mamata [Prabhu] as the national team coaches but they are doing an honorary job. So the involvement, the accountability, their responsibility, their amount of authority – everything is limited. So that becomes very, very tough. A coach of foreign expertise has to be there and the HPD, these are some musts. Not just national team head coaches, men and women, but a panel of coaches who ... will be working with the Indian team for the next three to four years. Of course, Kamlesh sir is working in that direction, but we need to find a way where we are able to pay them. Of course the Asian Games will be very, very important for all of this, to get that funding from SAI.

GAME THEORY

The most prolific US Open champions

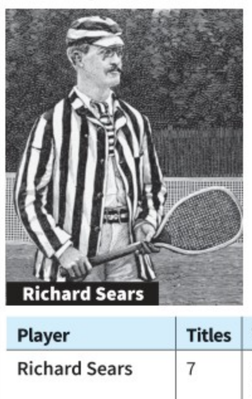
With the year’s fourth and final tennis Major, the US Open, starting on Monday, we take a look at the players with the most singles titles in the tournament’s history. The inaugural edition, which featured only men, was held in 1881. The first women’s edition was staged in 1887. The tournament was limited to amateurs until 1968, when the Open Era began and professionals were allowed to compete.

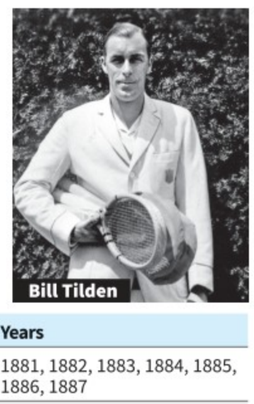
Most singles titles: Women



Player	Titles	Years
Molla Mallory	8	1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1926
Helen Wills	7	1923, 1924, 1925, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1931
Chris Evert	6	1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1980, 1982
Serena Williams	6	1999, 2002, 2008, 2012, 2013, 2014
Margaret Court	5	1962, 1965, 1969, 1970, 1973
Steffi Graf	5	1988, 1989, 1993, 1995, 1996
Elisabeth Moore	4	1896, 1901, 1903, 1905
Hazel Hotchkiss Wightman	4	1909, 1910, 1911, 1919
Helen Jacobs	4	1932, 1933, 1934, 1935
Alice Marble	4	1936, 1938, 1939, 1940
Pauline Betz	4	1942, 1943, 1944, 1946
Maria Bueno	4	1959, 1963, 1964, 1966
Billie Jean King	4	1967, 1971, 1972, 1974
Martina Navratilova	4	1983, 1984, 1986, 1987

Most singles titles: Men





Player	Titles	Years
Richard Sears	7	1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887
William Larned	7	1901, 1902, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911
Bill Tilden	7	1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1929
Jimmy Connors	5	1974, 1976, 1978, 1982, 1983
Pete Sampras	5	1990, 1993, 1995, 1996, 2002
Roger Federer	5	2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008
Robert Wrenn	4	1893, 1894, 1896, 1897
John McEnroe	4	1979, 1980, 1981, 1984
Rafael Nadal	4	2010, 2013, 2017, 2019
Oliver Campbell	3	1890, 1891, 1892
Malcolm Whitman	3	1898, 1899, 1900
Fred Perry	3	1933, 1934, 1936
Ivan Lendl	3	1985, 1986, 1987
Novak Djokovic	3	2011, 2015, 2018

PICTURE THIS

GETTY IMAGES

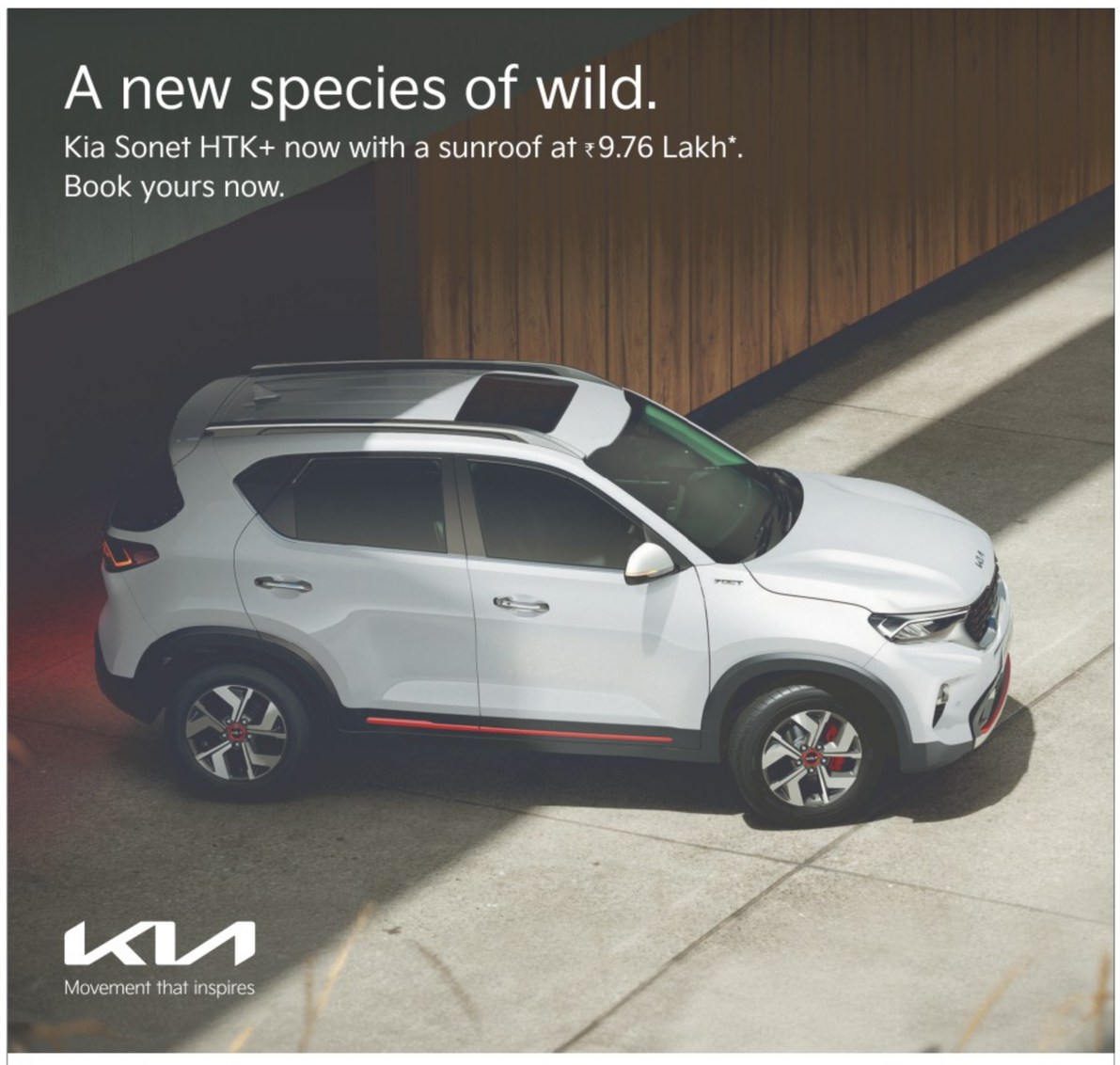
Riding kites

Flying kites is passe, if the cool kids are to be believed. Now you must ride them, as these athletes pictured at the US Open Sailing Series in San Francisco will testify.

And if you’re any good at it, you might want to consider persevering because you just might win an Olympic medal in the future. The sport of kitesurfing — Formula Kite is the class chosen by World Sailing — will feature in the 2024 Paris Olympics.

Kitesurfing involves harnessing the power of wind with a large kite to pull a rider across water (or land or snow).

It combines aspects of paragliding, windsurfing, skateboarding and wakeboarding. Formula Kite uses a foil kite — a soft kite resembling a parachute — and a board with a hydrofoil, which is essentially a surface that lifts out of the water as the rider gains speed, allowing faster speeds and longer travel. Kiteboarding is reportedly among the least expensive and most convenient of the sailing disciplines. There are an estimated 1.5 million kitesurfers across the world, with around 100,000 to 150,000 kites being sold every year.



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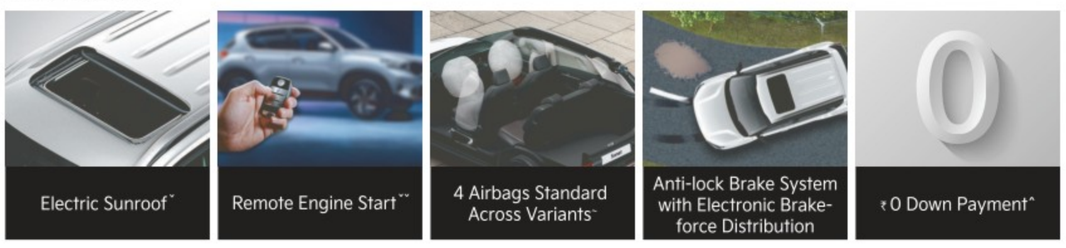
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M BG-BGE

Robbers target motorists who stop on Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway or those travelling by motorcycle

After the expressway was inaugurated in March, as many as 11 robberies have been reported. While seven were in Mandya district, the rest were in Ramanagara. So far, eight cases have been solved, according to the police

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

A 30-year-old advocate, Govind Ramesh, was travelling on the Mysuru-Bengaluru expressway when he stopped his car on the service road near Mandya and stepped out to speak on the phone. It was around 10.45 p.m. A man approached asking him to come closer. Sensing danger, Govind Ramesh got into his car and drove away. As he left the spot, he realised that there were other men in the vicinity, and the man who spoke to him was coordinating with others over a phone in Hindi. He reported the incident to the police.

The expressway, already infamous for fatal accidents, is now attracting highway robbers. After the expressway was inaugurated in March 2023 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, 11 robberies were recorded. While seven cases were reported in Mandya district, the rest were in Ramanagara district. At least two robberies have been reported in August 2023.

A senior police official said that while highway patrolling is being increased, he advised commuters not to stop their vehicles anywhere on the motorway or service road, especially at night. FILE PHOTO

So far, eight cases have been solved, according to police in Mandya and Ramanagara. While these are official figures, it is possible that many instances of robberies may have gone unreported.

In most cases, culprits target bikers or motorists who stop by the roadside. In one instance, robbers chased a vehicle for 8 km. In another case, robbers targeted a couple who were taking a break in their car on the roadside.

Govind Ramesh claims that patrolling of the highway, especially at night when commuters are more vulnerable, is lax. "Authorities have to increase patrolling not just on the highway, but also on the service road. Otherwise, such highway robberies will only increase," he said.

Police advice

A senior police official said while highway patrolling is being increased, he advised commuters not to stop their vehicles anywhere on the expressway or service road, especially at night. "Commuters are advised to stop their vehicles only at petrol bunks on the service road or at restaurants, and not in between," the officer said.

BBMP lab fire: Two of the nine employees who suffered burns shifted to private hospital

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Two of the nine employees of BBMP's Quality Control Wing, who suffered burns in the fire accident on August 11, have been shifted to a private hospital in the city after their condition worsened.

The two – Chief Engineer Shivakumar, 45, and Junior Engineer Jyothi, 26, – suffered 25% and 28% burns respectively. They have been shifted to Apollo hospital, Sheshadripuram.

Following the accident, all the injured persons were admitted to the ICU in Trauma and Emergency Care Centre (TECC) at Victoria Hospital that is affiliated to Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute (BMCRI).

Doctors at the Victoria Hospital said that Mr. Shivakumar has been diagnosed with Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS).

Put on ECMO

"He has suffered extensive lung injury and has developed sepsis with shock. He was shifted to Apollo hospital on ventilator support for management with a heart lung machine – ECMO (Extra Corporeal Membrane Oxygenation) on August 21," said Ramesh Krishna K., BMCRI director cum dean.

"Ms. Jyothi, who had suffered facial and airway oedema, has developed mild ARDS with sepsis. She was also shifted to the same hospital on a high flow nasal catheter (HFNC)," he said.

Apollo hospital authorities said both are being treated in the ICU. While Mr. Shivakumar has been put on ECMO, Ms. Jyothi is responding to treatment. She is likely to be shifted to the ward in a day or two, hospital authorities said.

Dr. Ramesh Krishna said Executive Engineer Kiran, 37, who had a pre-existing renal issue and has been on dialysis for a month, has suffered 12% burns, and is undergoing dialysis as per the advice of the nephrologist. His condition is stable and he continues to be under treatment in the TECC ward, the doctor said.

Others stable

The condition of the other six employees is stable and their vitals are normal. They have been shifted to the ward in PMSSY super speciality hospital on Victoria hospital's campus, the doctor added.

BBMP to shift SWM learning centre from HSR Layout

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) will shift Swaccha Graha Kalika Kendra (SGKK), or Solid Waste Management (SWM) learning centre, from HSR Park in Sector 4 of HSR Layout to Karnataka Compost Development Corporation (KCDC) premises nearby.

The decision of the civic body came after residents living near the park petitioned the BBMP to shift the centre, as it was set up by taking open space meant for citizens visiting the park. Besides, the key of the park was handed over to the contractor running the centre, residents allege.

A resident, who is a senior bureaucrat, told *The Hindu*, "There is a rule that civic amenities sites, like a park, cannot be used for other activities. About 2-5% can be used for gym. However, about five years ago, the Kalika Kendra was established in the park. The Kendra has cattle and hens, and some families live there. The 1-acre park has been turned into a village."

Seeing these developments, residents began demanding that the BBMP relocate the Kendra. Bowing to their demand, BBMP issued an order to shift the Kendra to KCDC, which is spread over 25 acres.

Solid Waste Management learning centre will be shifted from HSR Park at Sector 4 to KCDC premises soon. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

However, a section of citizens have opposed this move and have started an online petition appealing to civic authorities to not shift the centre. "Over the years, we have been able to transform this once-unkempt park littered with construction debris into a thriving green oasis in the midst of a bustling locality....We have added attractive and meaningful installations that harmonise with the park's ambiance whole promoting recycling and upcycling in an engaging and educative manner," said the petition which has got over 3400 signatories when last checked.

It claims the Kendra has not violated any norms and appeals to the chief secretary and chief civic commissioner to intervene and ensure the Kendra is not shifted out.

Satish Reddy, local MLA, who is also opposing the BBMP's decision to relocate the centre, said the centre was set up with MLA funds. He accused the BBMP of acting under pressure from a senior bureaucrat. Mr. Reddy said the Kendra is a knowledge centre. Bengaluru South MP Tejaswi Surya and Mr. Reddy have written to BBMP to cancel the order.

However, according to the BBMP, the people, who are associated with the centre, have no say as BBMP is the custodian of the centre.

KAS officer arrested for grant of govt. land illegally

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA

Chikkamagaluru police arrested KAS officer J. Umesh, who worked as tahsildar of Kadur earlier, in Bengaluru on Friday, on charges of issuing khata of government land in the name of private persons.

Tarikere sub-division Assistant Commissioner K.J. Kantharaj filed a complaint against Umesh and two other revenue officials on August 12. Mr. Umesh has been posted as a land acquisition officer at Seabird Naval Base in Karwar. The two other accused are Nanjundaiah, retired shirastedar and Kiran Kumar, revenue inspector. During his tenure in Kadur, Umesh and the other officials, issued the khata of five acres and four guntas of government land (sarkari beelu) at Uliganur village in Biruru hobli in the name of private people. Kadur police took Umesh into custody on Thursday. He has been taken to Kadur for investigation.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of General Public that I, **CT Srinivas,** owner of Villa No.16, Chaithanya Armadale, Whitefield Road, Krishnarajapuram Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, have lost the **Page No.13** of **Original Sale Deed dated 13 April, 2005, registered as Document No.1065/2005-06, KRI-1-01065-2005-06, KRID132,** at the Office of the Sub Registrar (KR Puram). With regard to the same I have also lodged an Online Police Complaint bearing Lost Report No.696049/2023 on 23.08.2023 in the Bengaluru Police Website. If anybody finds the said original document, kindly return the same immediately to me to my address or call me on my number and you will be suitably rewarded.

CT Srinivas,
Apt. No. 301, North Star Leela,
6-1-120, Padmarao Nagar,
SECUNDERABAD-500 025.
TELANGANA STATE
Mobile: 99720 71313
Email: capt.ct.srinivas@gmail.com
Bengaluru.
Date: 26.08.2023.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION
ISRO-TELEMETRY TRACKING & COMMAND NETWORK (ISTRAC)
(CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP)
Plot No.12&13, 3rd Main, 2nd Phase, Peenya Industrial Estate, Bengaluru-58. Fax: 080-28094180, Ph: 080-280904186, 4541

BRIEF E-TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of President of India, **Sealed Item rate E-Tenders** is invited online from Contractors of appropriate class for the following work in NIT by **Group Head,** ISTRAC, ISRO, Peenya, Bengaluru-58(Ph:2809 4541/4186).

Name of work	**Annual Service Contract for Operation & maintenance of electrical installations at ILF, ISTRAC, Lucknow.**
E-Tender Notice	**ISTRAC/CMG/E/MAINT/ETN-48/ 2023-2024, DATED: 24.08.2023**
Estimated Cost put to tender	**Rs. 36.56 Lakhs**
Tender Document Details	**E-Tender**
Period of Completion in months reckoned from the 15th day of date of issue of work order	**12 months** (With a provision to extend the contract for a period of two more years with same terms and conditions)
Period during which the tender document can be downloaded	**From 16.00 Hrs. on 25.08.2023 to 06.09.2023 till 16.00 Hrs.**
Bid Clarification	**From 11.00 Hrs. on 26.08.2023 to 07.09.2023 till 16.00 Hrs.**
Last date & time for reply to Bid Clarifications	**08.09.2023 up to 16.00 Hrs.**
Last date and time for receipt of tenders	**11.09.2023 up to 16.00 Hrs.**
Due date and time of opening of tenders.	**13.09.2023 after 11.00 Hrs.**
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	**Rs. 73,120.00**

Interested tenderers may please refer **Detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT)** for eligibility criteria and other details from website **www.isro.gov.in** and download the tender documents from **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**

Sd/- Group Head, CMG

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION
ISRO-TELEMETRY TRACKING & COMMAND NETWORK (ISTRAC)
(CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP)
Plot No.12&13, 3rd Main, 2nd Phase, Peenya Industrial Estate, Bengaluru-58. Fax: 080-28094180, Ph: 080-280904195, 4541

CORRIGENDUM-I DATE: 25.08.2023

On behalf of President of India, **Sealed Item rate E-Tenders** is invited online from Contractors of appropriate class for the following work in NIT by **Group Head, CMG,** ISTRAC, ISRO, Peenya, Bengaluru-58 (Ph:2809 4541).

Name of work	**Annual Service Contract for Operation of Air Conditioning installations at different locations in SCC, MOX Campus and at SSA Control Centre (NETRA), Peenya, ISTRAC, Bengaluru.**
E-Tender Notice	**ISTRAC/CMG/A.C/MAINT/E-Tender-29/ 2023-24, DATED: 02.08.2023**
Estimated Cost put to tender	**Rs. 36.72 Lakhs**
Tender Document Details	**E-Tender**
Period of completion in months reckoned from the 15th day of date of issue of work order	**12 Months** (With a provision to extend the contract for a period of two more years with same terms and conditions)
Period during which the tender document can be downloaded	From 16.00 Hrs. on 04.08.2023 to 21.08.2023 till 16.00 Hrs. **Extended up to 11.09.2023 till 10.00 Hrs.**
Bid Clarification	From 11.00 Hrs. on 05.08.2023 to 22.08.2023 till 16.00 Hrs. **Extended up to 12.09.2023 till 16.00 Hrs.**
Last date & time for reply to Bid Clarifications	23.08.2023 up to 16.00 Hrs. **Extended up to 13.09.2023 up to 16.00 Hrs.**
Last date and time for receipt of tenders	24.08.2023 up to 16.00 Hrs. **Extended up to 14.09.2023 up to 16.00 Hrs.**
Due date and time of opening of tenders	25.08.2023 after 11.00 Hrs. **Extended up to 15.09.2023 up to 11.00 Hrs.**
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	**Rs. 73,440.00**

Interested tenderers may please refer **Detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT)** for eligibility criteria and other details from website **www.isro.gov.in** and download the tender documents from **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**

Sd/- Group Head, CMG

BUSINESS CONNECT A Business Initiative

C. Krishniah Chetty Group of Jewellers Clinches Triple Awards for Exemplary Industry Leadership

C. Krishniah Chetty Group of Jewellers, a venerable name with a legacy spanning over 150 years in the Indian jewellery landscape, has added another gleaming chapter to its journey with a triumphant sweep of three consecutive awards. The coveted recognitions come as an acknowledgment of the brand's captivating journey, enduring industry leadership, and remarkable creativity. The latest accolades include the prestigious 'Bridal Ensemble Jewellery of the Year' at the esteemed Retail Jewellery India Awards 2023. Following this, the veteran in the industry Dr C. Vinod Hayagriv, the MD & Director of the brand was bestowed with the Industry Legend Award by the Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC), a momentous tribute to the enduring legacy. Then, Chaitanya V Cotha, the Executive Director at C. Krishniah Chetty, was honored the "40 under 40" category at the event organized by the Gems and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC). Dr. C Vinod Hayagriv shared, "This award is not just for me. It reflects the care and camaraderie that binds us within the industry and with each client we serve." Reflecting on the award Chaitanya V Cotha said, "This '40 Under 40' recognition isn't just about individual achievements, but a collective spirit of innovation, collaboration, and relentless pursuit of becoming better. This honor is a testament to our team's dedication and hard work."

Union Bank of India conducted U-Genius 2.0, A National Level General Awareness Competition for Students

Union Bank of India organised the U-Genius 2.0, a nation-wide general awareness competition for students. The event was held at Jnana Jyoti Auditorium and was graced by the presence of Sri Madhu Bangarappa, Honourable Minister for School Education & Literacy, GOK, Shri P C Raju Asst Commissioner, Kendriya Vidhyalaya Sangatham,Shri Satyaban Behera,Deputy Zonal Head, Union Bank of India. The event wil be conducted across 32 cities in India. The competition was open for students from class 8th to 12th and each school could participate in a team of 4 in the competition. The Quiz competition was attended by 115 Schools & above 900 students in Bengaluru city round.The City round winner will be participating in the final quiz in Mumbai. Union Bank of India with 9742 Branches & 10,195 ATMs, is the fifth largest PSB in terms of business volumes was the Winner of 2022 in large banks Category (Private & Public) awarded by IBA.

ADVERTISEMENT

Tackling the Rising Burden of Inflammatory Bowel Disease in India

Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) is a chronic inflammation of digestive tract with development of ulcers in the small and large intestines.IBD is a long-term condition needs regular medications and follow-up to control the symptoms and to maintain quality of life. Aster RV Hospital, Bangalore offers holistic treatment for gastrointestinal problems using modern treatment approaches and advanced procedures. All the doctors are highly trained and have several years of experience in treating IBD.

Elaborating on the IBD prevalence in India, **Dr Madhu MP - Consultant Medical Gastroenterology Aster RV Hospital, JP Nagar** said "There has been a rising prevalence of IBD in the last two decades in India owing to rapid urbanization and adaptation of westernized diet. We see about 2-3 patients daily in our OPD. It can occur at any age, although mostly diagnosed in the first and second decades of life. Therefore, it can affect the quality of life of young people. The second peak is seen in the elderly in the sixth or seventh decades of life." In India, men are more frequently affected than women and the incidence in children is also on the rise.

Although the exact cause of IBD is yet to be established, available literature suggests faulty immune responses to viral or bacterial infections trigger inflammation in the gastrointestinal tract. Moreover, patients with a positive family history are more likely to develop it. Studies have also linked high consumption of animal protein, fats, sugar to the development of IBD, whereas breastfeeding and the consumption of fruits and vegetables play a protective role against its development.

The most common symptoms of IBD include diarrhoea, blood in stool, abdominal pain, weight loss, low haemoglobin, fatigue, malabsorption, etc. For some IBD is a mild disease, however, in others, it can present with life-threatening complications like bowel obstruction, perforation and fistula. IBD patients are also at higher risk of developing colorectal cancer as compared to the general population. IBD comprises two conditions, namely ulcerative colitis (UC) and Crohn's disease (CD). UC involves only the large intestine whereas CD can involve any part of the digestive tract from mouth to anus. Therefore, CD is more debilitating for patients.

Aster RV HOSPITAL
We'll Treat You Well
Phone: 6366845989

IBD is often confused with irritable bowel disease (IBS), another GI condition, having similar symptoms. Irritable bowel disease is a functional disease and occurs due to a defect in the brain-gut axis with normal blood tests and colonoscopy. Whereas, IBD diagnosis can be confirmed with blood tests, colonoscopy orsigmoidoscopic examination and CT scan. A blood test is done to check for the presence of anaemia and to rule out infections. A stool test may be further ordered to check the presence of blood or parasites in the stool. Colonoscopy or sigmoidoscopy will show ulcers in the large intestine and biospy of which will confirm the diagnosis.Imaging studies like CT scan of abdoman will also be done to look for small intestinal disease or stricture.

Speaking on the management options, **Dr Madhu MP, Aster RV Hospital, *said,*** "Treatment varies from patient to patient depending upon symptom presentation and their severity. Medications are commonly prescribed to control pain, inflammation, infection and diarrhoea. Diet and lifestyle changes also help to improve symptoms. Few patients may eventually require surgery when all other measures fail to relieve symptoms effectively."

TATA MOTORS
Connecting Aspirations

झारखण्ड सरकार
सत्यमेव जयते
GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND

Cummins

HISTORIC MOMENT

UNDER THE VISIONARY AND ABLE LEADERSHIP OF CHIEF MINISTER **HEMANT SOREN,** INDIA'S FIRST HYDROGEN ENGINE INDUSTRY TO BE ESTABLISHED IN JHARKHAND

Production to begin in a phased manner from 2024

Key Highlights :

Investment worth
₹350+ crores

Giant step towards India's resolve to combat climate change

Stride towards clean energy technologies & low carbon economy

Opens avenues for manufacturing advanced technology products for the commercial vehicle industry

Manufacturing of hydrogen internal combustion engines, battery electric vehicle systems, fuel cell electric vehicle systems and fuel delivery systems

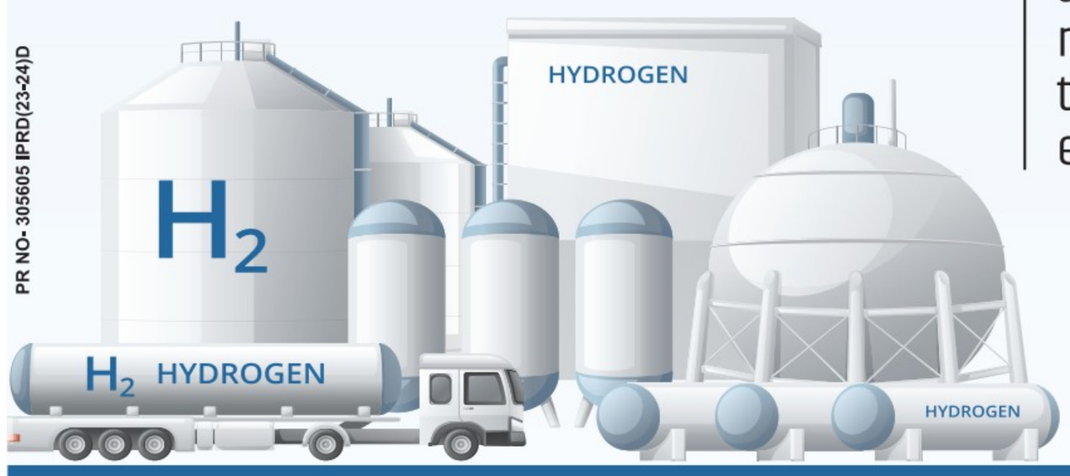
Generation of direct and indirect employment, and skill development opportunities for the youth

To manufacture low-to-zero-emission powertrain solutions

An MoU has been signed between the Department of Industries, Government of Jharkhand and TCPL Green Energy Solutions Pvt. Ltd. (wholly owned subsidiary of Tata Cummins Private Limited (TCPL))

This day shall prove to be a milestone for India as well as Jharkhand. I am elated that a historic step has been taken jointly by the Government of Jharkhand, Tata Motors and Cummins towards making the vision of transitioning to clean energy a reality.

- **Hemant Soren**
Chief Minister, Jharkhand



PR NO- 305605 IPRD(23-24)D

Department of Industries, Government of Jharkhand

NIMHANS to set up brain and mind museum to increase awareness of neuroscience

It proposes to aggregate advances in information and communication technology, graphics, incorporate virtual reality, and professional expertise in various fields of mental health

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

Exhibits at the brain museum at the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences in Bengaluru. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

To improve awareness of mental health and neurosciences as well as decode functioning of the brain, NIMHANS is working on setting up a brain and mind museum in its platinum jubilee year. The existing Heritage Museum and the proposed 'Human Brain Museum' will be integrated into a new facility in Bengaluru, making it "the first, largest and most innovative Museum of the Brain and Mind in the world".

The museum proposes to aggregate advances in information and communication technology, graphics and animation, incorporate virtual reality, and professional expertise in various fields of mental health and neuroscience. The idea is to provide an experiential and interactive experience for visitors with comprehensive, authentic information on the functioning of the brain and the mind, in health and disease.

NIMHANS Director Pratima Murthy told *The Hindu*, "There are plans to have a holographic zone, and an incubation centre for scientists to discuss and experiment with innovative ideas, particularly for start-ups, idea validation, mentorship and guidance, networking, funding assistance, research and marketing. We are also working on making the museum available online. Another idea being explored is of a travelling exhibition."

Cutting-edge technology for display proposed to be used include touch tables, transparent displays, interactive 2D touch screens, augmented reality experiences, virtual reality headsets, virtual reality caves and haptic devices to allow visitors to feel 3D objects in virtual reality space. The institute is looking for philanthropic and CSR support for this initiative, Dr. Murthy said.

Prabha S. Chandra, Dean of Behavioural Sciences at NIMHANS, said, "High-end technological interfaces will represent an educative experience by itself, and will reflect the progress in technology made in recent times. The museum will help visitors understand how the brain functions in health, how motor and sensory functions are coordinated, how consciousness is maintained, how thoughts, actions and feelings are formed, and how trauma, use of substances, and lifestyle can alter functioning of the brain."

Over 300 specimens

The existing brain bank is a human brain repository of tissue and fluids collected at post-mortem, with informed consent of close relatives.

It has been established as a resource organisation to procure precious human nervous tissue for neurobiological research in India.

Anita Mahadevan, Professor and Head of Department of Neuropathology, who is also coordinator of the bank and museum, said, "Over 300 specimens of the human brain are on display at the museum, and an equal number are stored in the bank. One half of the brain from neurodegenerative and psychiatric disorder cases are frozen at -86 degree Celsius while the other half is formalin fixed, which can be used for pathomorphological studies.

"Since its inception in 1974, the bank has archived human brain, brain biopsies, serum and cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) samples from various neurological and psychiatric disorders for research. The mission is to make people N-literate (neuroscience literate). The number of brain donations are also on the rise over the years. Overall, we have collected over 50 donated brains from Bengaluru.

"Right now, the brain is a structure at the bank and museum. Its functioning is something that we cannot show on a specimen. We will use digital technology to show how the brain works, the connectivity, how nerve impulses travel. We want to expand from anatomy to try and show function."

BBMP official inspects Chikkanagamangala waste processing plant

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Days after a fishkill incident was reported at Chikkanagamangala lake, Zonal Commissioner (South Zone), Jayaram Raipura on Friday, inspected the leachate treatment unit that was set up by a private firm at the Solid Waste Processing Plant in the village.

Residents of the area had alleged leachate that was going into the lake contaminated the water resulting in fishkill and demanded the BBMP to shut down the plant. The plant has always remained a bone of contention but BBMP is firm about running it.

Leachate treatment

Recently, a private firm had set up a leachate treatment unit in the plant and is running it on an experimental basis. Jayaram Raipura, after inspection, said that the plant will be made fully operational after clearance from Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB).

Explaining about the plant, he said the plant has the capacity to process 50,000 litres of leachate every day and produce 30,000 litres of filtered water. After the unit starts running on a full scale, treated water will be supplied to farmers for agricultural use and building activities.

Mr. Raipura said Chikkanagamangala waste processing plant has optimum capacity of processing 300 tonnes of waste every day and currently is processing only 280 tonnes. He directed the officials to repair defunct machines, install LED lights in the plant and run the plant round the clock.

Create awareness

He also directed the officials to set up name plates of the plant which should contain its details. The officials should also work to make citizens, school children aware of the significance of the plant by allowing them to visit on Thursday, Friday and Saturday every week between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., he said.

INBRIEF

Cricket stadium, gymnasium inaugurated at CMR varsity

New sports infrastructure such as state-of-the-art cricket stadium and gymnasium were inaugurated on Thursday by former IPL Chairman and former cricketer Brijesh Patel at CMR University. Speaking after inaugurating the cricket stadium, and gymnasium, Mr. Patel emphasised the importance of maintaining a delicate equilibrium between academic pursuits and sports excellence. He underlined that students need to strike a balance between their studies and their passion for sports.The state-of-the-art facilities will serve as the breeding ground for future sports champions and contribute to the overall growth of the student community, said former Rajya Sabha Member and chairman of the University.

Disruption in water supply in some areas today

Water supply will be disrupted on Saturday in some areas of the city in view of the work being taken up to connect the new pipeline to the existing line at J.P. Nagar 4th Phase.

According to a release from BWSSB, the areas that will be affected are: J.P. Nagar 3rd to 7th phases, Arekere MICO Layout, Vijaya Bank Colony, Hulimavu, Bilekahalli, Syndicate Bank Colony, Konanakunte, Chunchughatta, Jaraganahalli, Ranka Colony, Jayanagar 4th T. Block, Tilak Nagar, S.R. Krishnappa Garden, BTM Layout 2nd Stage, Madivala, Dollars Colony, Gurappanapalya, Tavarekere, Bismilla Nagar, HSR Layout 1st to 7th Sector, Mangammanapalya, Electronic City, Koramangla 1st to 4th Block, Jakkasandra, Venkatapura, and surrounding areas.

City police crack two robbery cases

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

City police have cracked a recent incident of robbery, targeting two students of National Law School of India University outside its campus and arrested two people in connection with the case.

The arrested have been identified as T. Rahul Kumar, hailing from Uttar Pradesh and S. Irfan, from the city.

The two work at a furniture store in Basaveshwaranagar and this was their first crime.

The duo, while returning home from work, saw the two students sitting inside a bus stand late in the night, threatened them with a knife and snatched their mobile phones and fled.

However, a few minutes later when one of the victims called his robbed mobile phone with another number, the accused picked up the call and demanded him to transfer ₹15,000 to his UPI ID and gave his mobile number.

Though the victim had transferred ₹5000 to the UPI ID, the duo did not return the phones.

However, using this UPI ID, Jnanabharathi Police tracked down the accused and arrested them.

Phones recovered

In another case, J.C. Nagar Police arrested two persons who were involved in robbing mobile phones in D.J. Halli, K.G. Halli and Pulakeshinagar areas.

The arrested have been identified as Imran, from Nelamnagala and Asif, from D.J. Halli.

Police have recovered 14 mobile phones from them.

While Imran has over 20 cases of robbery pending against him, Asif has over 10 cases pending against him.

The duo had been roaming around the area on a stolen bike, waylaid, threatened people with lethal arms in broad daylight and robbed them, mainly of their mobile phones and other valuables.

Timings
BENGALURU

SATURDAY, AUG. 26	
RISE 06:08	SET 18:35
RISE 14:20	SET 00:50
SUNDAY, AUG. 27	
RISE 06:08	SET 18:34
RISE 15:23	SET 01:51
MONDAY, AUG. 28	
RISE 06:08	SET 18:33
RISE 16:24	SET 02:56

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	33	25
Mysuru	33	22
Bengaluru	32	21

Bengaluru Today
31°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm and humid. Night will be pleasant. Chances of light rain and thundershower at few places.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
31°C A mostly dry weather to prevail. Day will be slight warm and humid. Night will be pleasant.

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THE HINDU
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Disruption in power supply today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

There will be no power supply on Saturday between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. in the areas within the city, serviced from 66/11kV C Station for carrying out maintenance work.

Areas affected

According to a press release from Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited (Bescom), East Circle, the areas that will be affected are: Broadway Road, Cockburn Road, Station Road, Queens Road, Thimmaiah Road, Miller's Road, Slaughter House Road, Cunningham Road, Ali Asker Road, Ali Asker Road Cross, Thimmaiah Road, Chickbazar Road, Venkatappa Road, Muniswamy Road, Cemetery Road, Haines Road, Jasmabhavan Road, Muthyalamma Koil Street, Seppings Road, OPH Road, Connaught Road, Edward Road, Infantry Road, Haines Road, Vasanth Nagar, Dabaspet, Kallahally, Kensington Road and surrounding areas.

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
Water Resources Department - Middle Cauvery Basin Circle, Trichy - 20.
Lumpsum Contract - Item Rate Contract (Two Cover System)

E- Tender Notice No. 03 / 2023 - 2024 / DO1 / MCBC / Trichy / Dated 24.08.2023

For and on behalf of Governor of Tamil Nadu, e-tenders are invited from the registered, experienced in irrigation projects and eligible contractors by the Superintending Engineer, WRD, Middle Cauvery Basin Circle, Trichy for the following works

Sl No	Name of work	Approximate Value of work (including GST 18%) (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD Rs	Period of completion (including Rainy Season)	Tender submission through online Closing Date and time (As per server System clock)	Opening of Tender through online date and time (As per server system clock)	Eligible Class
	River Conservancy Division, Trichy						
1	Rehabilitation and Improvements of **Kattuputhur Leading channel** in Oruvandhur Village of Mohanur Taluk of Namakkal District	999.99	5,10,500	24 Months	03.10.2023 Upto 3.00 PM	04.10.2023 3.00 PM onwards	Registered in Class I (Above Rs.75 Lakhs) State Level in WRD or appropriate class and above in PWD
2	Rehabilitation of Intermediate regulator across **Upper Panguni Channel** in Nagar village of Lalgudi Taluk in Trichy District	1460.35	7,41,000	24 Months	03.10.2023 Upto 3.30 PM	04.10.2023 3.30 PM onwards	Registered in Class I (Above Rs.75 Lakhs) State Level in WRD or appropriate class and above in PWD

Tender documents will be available in the Government web site http://www.tntenders.tn.gov.in. from 04.09.2023 and it can be downloaded free of cost as mentioned above. Remittance of EMD and other details can also be available from the above and in the office of the Superintending Engineer, WRD, Middle Cauvery Basin Circle, Trichy.
Any corrections / Extension / Corrigendum if any will be issued in the above web site only.

DIPR / 4742 / TENDER / 2023

Superintending Engineer, WRD,
Middle Cauvery Basin Circle, Trichy

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, CENTRAL (R&B) CIRCLE, BHUBANESWAR
Mail i.d seccbbsr@gmail.com

E-Procurement Tender Call Notice No.11 of 2023-24
No. 2853 (Estg.) Bhubaneswar the 21st August-2023

The Chief Construction Engineer, Central (R&B) Circle, Bhubaneswar on behalf of the Governor of Odisha, invites percentage rate bids for construction of three number road works to be received in online bidding, double cover system as detailed in: **https://tendersorissa.gov.in**. The details of bid documents will be available in the above website from **5.00 P.M of 28.08.2023 to 5.00 P.M. of 11.09.2023**. The bidders must possess compatible Digital Signature Certificate of Class II or III. Bids received online shall be opened at **11.00 A.M. of 12.09.2023** in the Office of the Chief Construction Engineer, Central (R&B) Circle, Bhubaneswar.

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal **www.tendersorissa.gov.in**

Addendum / Corrigendum, if required, will be available only in the Website.

Sd/- Er.P.K. Mohanty
Chief Construction Engineer
Central (R&B) Circle, Bhubaneswar

B-775 OIPR-34156/11/0015/2324

Tel. 06766-258301(O)
email: se_nerwkjr@rediffmail.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, KEONJHAR
1st Corrigendum Notice

No. 3075 **Date: 22.08.23**

Under unavoidable circumstances the **'Date of availability of tender & date of opening of Technical Bid'** and **'Annexure'** of tenders invited vide eprocurement Notice No.2656 Dtd: 08.08.2023 / Bid Identification No. Road Online NCB No. 378 is hereby modified to the following extent.

1. The date of availability of tender & date of opening of Techinical Bid

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender Online for bidding		Last Date & Time of seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O/o C.C.E., R.W. Circle, Keonjhar.	
		From	To		Techinical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Keonjhar	**Road Online NCB No. 378**	**Dt. 01.09.23 at 11.00 A.M.**	**Dt. 16.09.23 upto 5.00 P.M.**	**Dt. 15.09.23 upto 5.00 P.M.**	**Dt. 18.09.23 at 11.00 A.M.**	**Will be intimated later**

2. Annexure:- The works for Sl. No. 2, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 23 & 27 are hereby cancelled from Annexure.
• Further details can be seen from the website **www.tendersorissa.gov.in**

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer, R.W. Circle, Keonjhar

O-772 OIPR-25177/11/0018/2324

झारखण्ड सरकार
ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग,कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
कम्बाईण्ड बिल्डिग, प्रथम तल्ला, एल०सी० रोड, धनबाद

ई–अति अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना
ई–निविदा संख्या:- 13/2023-24/RWD/DHANBAD दिनांक :- 25.08.2023

कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, धनबाद द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र0 सं0	आईडेन्टी फिकेशन संख्या / पैकेज संख्या	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि (रूपये में) अंक में	प्राक्कलित राशि (रूपये में) अक्षर में	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि	टेण्डर कॉल संख्या
1.	RWD/ DHANBAD/ 15/2023-24	पाण्डरकनाली पंचायत अन्तर्गत एन0एच0 23 डी0एम0 पब्लिक स्कूल के गेट से चिरूडीह जोरिया तक पथ का सुदृढ़ीकरण कार्य (लम्बाई –1.50 कि0मी0)	10884000.00	एक करोड़ आठ लाख चौरासी हजार मात्र।	12 माह	प्रथम

2. वेबसाईट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि:– **01.09.2023**
3. ई–निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय:– **09.09.2023** अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक।
4. **(क)** मुख्य अभियंता कार्यालय, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी, राँची अथवा **(ख)** जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष, **राँची** अथवा **(ग)** जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष, **धनबाद** में से किसी भी कार्यालय में निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय:– **11.09.2023** अपराह्न 3.30 बजे तक।
5. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि स्पीड पोस्ट के माध्यम से भी कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, धनबाद को भेजा जा सकता है। यह निविदाकार की जिम्मेवारी होगी कि स्पीड पोस्ट के माध्यम से भेजा जाने वाला निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि निर्धारित तिथि एवं समय (05.09.2023 अपराह्न 3.30 बजे तक) से पूर्व प्राप्त हो जाय। अंतिम तिथि एवं समय से पूर्व प्राप्त निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि पर ही विचार किया जायेगा।
6. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय:– **12.09.2023** अपराह्न 3.30 बजे।
7. निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता:– कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, धनबाद, पिन–826001
8. ई–निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं0– 0326–3554757
9. निविदा शुल्क झारखण्ड राज्य में अवस्थित भारतीय स्टेट बैंक / राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक / अनुसूचित बैंक द्वारा निर्गत बैंक ड्राफ्ट के रूप में जो कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, **धनबाद** के पक्ष में एवं **धनबाद** में भुगतेय जमा करना होगा जो लौटाया नहीं जायेगा।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाईट jharkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता
ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, धनबाद

PR 305574 Rural Development(23-24).D

CHENNAI METROPOLITAN WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD
NO.1, PUMPING STATION ROAD, CHINTADRIPET, CHENNAI - 600002
NOTICE INVITING TENDER THROUGH E-TENDER
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING

e-bids are invited from the eligible bidders for the following work in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode with single stage two cover bids submission, conforming to Tamil Nadu Transparency in Tenders (Public Private Partnership Procurement) Rules, 2012 and the Tamil Nadu Transparency in Tenders Act, 1998 and Rules 2000.

Sl. No.	Name of work and Tender No.	Bid Security (Rs.in Cr)	Prebid Meeting Date	e-Bid Submission closing Date	e-Bid Opening Date
1.	"Selection of Concessionaire for Restoration of Adyar River under Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM)" through Public Private Partnership mode on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer basis. **CNT/SEW/NCB/PPP/3551/2023-24**	**28.00 Crore**	**01.09.2023 11.30AM IST**	**30.11.2023 upto 3.00 PM IST**	**On 01.12.2023 From 3.30PM IST onwards** If the due date happens to be a holiday, the bids will be received and opened on the next working day

The Government is in the process of establishing a separate company ("**Authority Company**") under Companies Act 2013, to undertake Planning, Designing, Financing, Procuring, Constructing, Supervision, Monitoring, Rehabilitating, Developing, Operating, Maintaining and Managing Projects, Programs and Schemes meant for transformation and Restoration of the Rivers and Water ways in Chennai. The Government has nominated the Authority Company to function as the Concessioning Authority (the "**Authority**") for the Project to enter in to a Concession Agreement with the Concessionaire. Government has directed Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board **("CMWSSB")** to function as the tender inviting authority on behalf of the Authority Company.

Availability of Bid documents and e-bid submission is permitted through tender portal / website **https://tntenders.gov.in.** For all other details refer Bid documents in the website from **03.08.2023** (e-bid documents could be downloaded from **03.08.2023 to 30.11.2023).** Bids must be submitted online only.

DIPR/4741/Tender/2023 **SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, (Contracts & Monitoring)**

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, CENTRAL IRRIGATION CIRCLE, BHUBANESWAR
'e'Procurement Notice No. ACECIC - 04/ 2023-24

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Name of Work	Cost of Work (Rs. in Lakhs)	Bid Security (Rs.) E.M.D.	Cost of Bid documents (Rs)	Class of Contractor	Bid documents available online for bidding From	Bid documents available online for bidding To	Date of Opening of Technical Bid	Period of completion of work
ACE, CIC, Bhubaneswar	NGR-01/ 2023-24	Construction of West side road along with parikrama road of Lord Nilamadhab Temple at Kantilo of Nayagarh District (B) Construction of Parikrama Road.	715.08	715100/- (on Line)	10000/- (on Line)	"A" & "Special Class	29.08.2023 At 10.00 Hours	12.09.2023 At 17.00 Hours	13.09.2023 At 11.00 Hours	12 (Twelve Calendar Month)

e-mail ID:- secic_dowr@yahoo.com
Further details conditions can be seen from Govt. website www.tenderorissa.gov.in

Sd/-
Additional Chief Engineer, Central Irrigation Circle

A-482 OIPR-32160/11/0004/2324

Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act).
RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945 • ISSN 0971 - 751X

PROPERTYPLUS
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thehindu.com/features/homes-and-gardens
THE HINDU

The interiors fuse seamlessly with water and the exterior greens. EARTHITECTS

A language of wood and sustainability

Architect George Emmanuel Ramapuram believes nature is the greatest designer, says **Nandhini Sundar**

ARCHITECTURE

It is a language that speaks of growing up amidst intense nature, dense woods, the hills and its streams, flora and fauna leaving a deep imprint that has translated into physical structures which totally merge into their green environs.

Architect George Emmanuel Ramapuram of Earthitects was raised amidst the dense coffee plantations of Coorg in a 150-year-old ancestral bungalow, the growing years spent watching carpenters, and masons at work.

It is thus not surprising that his philosophy about buildings is one that looks at each structure to last a century, where "the design evolves organically over the years, bringing in timelessness, longevity."

He relates to the buildings of the past as a legacy, a treasure trove "that is proud to be passed on", the longevity of these buildings coming with a huge sustainable quotient.

Firmly believing that nature is the greatest designer, George looks at approaching design as being totally tuned to nature, facilitating the play of abundance of life. This strong design approach is copiously evident in all his structures, more so in his projects in Coorg, where he studied in depth the Kodava culture and architecture before working on his designs.

"The Kodava style displays privacy as well as a congregation with the British presence leaving its mark as high ceilings, arches, verandas, the heavy monsoons sensitively addressed through large overhangs", he elaborates on the Kodava architecture. His project Stone Lodges in the district of Wayanad speaks amply of his design intent.

Role of topography

George began by designing a group of villas amidst the dense greens, letting the existing topography and locational sensitivities dictate the design. The language opted for was the local courtyard houses where the lines between the indoor and outdoor spaces blurred. The interiors of each villa open onto the decks to connect with water and greens while the play of light and shadow lend dynamism.

"Eucalyptus is also a fine wood given its high oil content", points George. The columns and structural members in the interiors display eucalyptus wood, contrasting the random rubble masonry walls, the stones having been sourced locally.

As intense as his connection with nature, George reveals yet another strong leaning, that of salvaging waste and putting it to good use, be it stone, wood or any material that can be recycled, repurposed, upcycled. Thus waste stone sourced from the local stone processing units become backsplash for the kitchen, converted into foyer tables, mantelpiece, and poolside seating. Similarly, the outer bark of tree trunks used normally as firewood has been salvaged to be structured into storage units and drawers as well as be integrated into the stone ledges, seating.

"The objective is to come up with creative, functional uses to reduce waste generation," opines George.

Creativity and budget

This is further witnessed in his own office space, Evolve Back Workspace, which he had to design as a young upcoming architect on a shoestring budget. He began by sourcing waste wood that typically found its way into kilns. "This waste wood is viewed as unusable as it is essentially rejected, cut pieces or outer bark of a tree, even driftwood, all of which is either left to degrade or used in a kiln," he explains. What emerged was a fine piece of creative work where the waste wood was turned into 'hanging' work tables, file cabinets, seating for the cafeteria, planter boxes, light fittings, trash cans, panelling for the existing concrete pillars.

Patterning to nature

As intense as his connection to nature and sustainable leanings is his yearning to give back to society. His project, Morning Glory, a primary school for children of labourers working in coffee plantations, is a case in point.

Built using Cob construction over a 4feet random rubble foundation wall built to protect from the annual flooding, the Mangalore tiled structure reveals a totally unconventional approach in design. With the intent to initiate creative, out-of-the-box thinking amongst the young students, the design is one of organic bends and curves, sans straight lines, in sync with nature's pattern.

Even the small tables of the classrooms reveal organic turns and twists, the blackboards coming with an irregular shape as against the conventional rectangle, and waste branches of Eucalyptus wood being turned into window railings. The door frames, too, come with a deliberate twist, and so do the toilets, which follow this curvaceous leaning. The materials are all sourced locally, with even the hardwood used being Nandi, a local species found in abundance.

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M BG-BGE

SC seeks report on Cauvery water release, availability

Court directs Cauvery Water Management Authority to submit report before Sept. 1; Karnataka govt. says it has already discharged water, which will take three days to travel to Tamil Nadu

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday directed the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) to submit a report on the status of discharge of the river water by Karnataka to Tamil Nadu, especially its availability for the next fortnight.

A three-judge Bench headed by Justice B.R. Gavai directed the CWMA to submit the report before September 1.

The direction came after Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati said the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee would meet on August 28 to discuss the release of water for the next fortnight. The decision would then be referred to the CWMA.

The court recorded Karnataka's dissatisfaction with a CWMA order to release 10,000 cusecs of water to Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadu, represented by senior advocates Mukul Rohatgi, C.S. Vaidyanathan and advocate G. Umapathy, too voiced its discontent about the CWMA order and sought an enhancement in the quantity of water to be released. Mr. Rohatgi submitted that Karnataka had failed in its obligation to supply the allotted water to Tamil Nadu. Karnataka, represented by senior advocate Shyam Divan, countered that water had already been discharged and would take three days to travel to Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadu had moved the Supreme Court seeking a direction to Karnataka to forthwith release 24,000 cusecs of water from its reservoirs at Biligundlu for the remaining period of August, starting from August 14. The State said the release of water was a dire necessity to meet the pressing demands of the standing crops.

Mekedatu dam is the only solution to Cauvery water row: Shivakumar

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A file photo of the spot identified for the construction of a balancing reservoir at Mekedatu in Ramanagara district.

The government has proposed to construct the dam to cater to the drinking water needs of Bengaluru

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Friday said the construction of the proposed Mekedatu project, a balancing reservoir, in the Cauvery basin in Karnataka is the only solution to the Cauvery water-sharing row with the neighbouring States.

Mr. Shivakumar told presspersons here that the necessity of the construction of the Mekedatu balancing reservoir was informed to the Supreme Court which is hearing the water dispute between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. There would not be a dispute on water sharing with Tamil Nadu if the Mekedatu project was constructed. More than 400 tmcft of water reached the sea as waste last year, he said.

The Deputy Chief Minister said water dispute could be avoided through the construction of the dam and storage of water during excess rainfall years. The government has proposed to construct the dam to cater to the drinking water needs of Bengaluru city. The Congress has maintained that Karnataka has every right to utilise 4.75 tmcft water allocated by the Supreme Court order on February 16, 2018, for catering to the drinking water of Bengaluru.

The Tamil Nadu government has claimed that the project is "illegal" and that it will not stand before the law.

In January 2022, Karnataka Congress leaders embarked on a padayatra to seek all clearances from the Centre to implement the project.

From Page One

PM's roadshow in Bengaluru cancelled

He will go straight to the ISRO facility. He will leave the city by 8.30 a.m. after meeting the scientists. He will spend about a hour with the ISRO team.

However, there will be a congregation of BJP workers both at HAL and near ISRO.

The Bengaluru police have issued an advisory on traffic restriction that will be in place between 4.30 a.m. and 9.30 a.m. on the route between HAL airport and ISRO facility in Peenya.

The cancellation of the roadshow has come as an embarrassment for the BJP Karnataka unit, which is already facing the wrath of the Central leadership over its miserable defeat in the Assembly elections.

INBRIEF

Governor honours ISRO chief, Chandrayaan-3 team

Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot on Friday visited ISRO facility in Bengaluru and felicitated its chairman S. Somanath and his team for the successful Chandrayaan-3 mission.

Mr. Gehlot praised Mr. Somanath and his team for their relentless pursuit of advancing space exploration and research. Their unwavering commitment has not only brought pride to the nation but has also showcased India's prowess on the global space stage, the Governor said. He expressed confidence that their ongoing efforts would continue to inspire future generations and elevate India's standing in the field of space science.

Dry spell decreases sowing area

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As against the target of 10.59 lakh hectares, paddy has been sown only in 6.59 lakh hectares. FILE PHOTO

Sowing area of paddy, ragi, red gram, green gram, cotton down; many crops likely to wither if rainfall remains deficient for next few weeks, says Minister

With the State receiving 25% deficient rainfall during southwest monsoon as on August 24, paddy sowing has been hit hard as the crop's sowing area has reduced by over 4 lakh hectares, while various standing crops are facing the threat of withering, according to Minister for Agriculture N. Cheluvarayaswamy.

The State received 487 mm rainfall as against the normal 654 mm from June 1 to August 24, while more than 100 taluks received less than normal rainfall during this monsoon and are staring at drought-like conditions. With weather monitoring agencies too predicting shortfall of rain during the monsoon, the progress of sowing of all major crops will remain sluggish in the State, the Minister said.

As against the target of 10.59 lakh hectares, paddy has been sown only in 6.59 lakh hectares, while ragi has been sown in 3.5 lakh hectares as against the target of 7.39 lakh hectares.

Similarly, there is reduction in the sowing area of other crops such as red gram by 2.5 lakh hectares, green gram by 2.22 lakh hectares, cotton by 1.45 lakh hectares, and groundnut by 93,000 hectares.

The total sown area as on August 24, was 64.84 lakh hectares as against the target of 83.35 lakh hectares, accounting for 79% coverage. If the dry spell continues for another few weeks, the yield on the sown area would not reach the hands of farmers, the Minister said.

Crops in 196 gram panchayats have been lost owing to weak monsoon, and 35,284 farmers of Bagalkot, Gadag, Tumakuru, and Belagavi will get crop insurance of ₹35.9 lakh. A total of 16.23 lakh farmers have registered for crop insurance, covering 15.31 lakh hectares.

Mr. Cheluvarayaswamy said the State had commenced ground-truthing exercises to assess the situation for declaration of drought in more than 100 taluks that are facing shortage of rainfall. A decision on this was taken on August 22 at a meeting of the State Cabinet panel that looks into recommendations to the Cabinet on drought.

Following the Central government's guidelines, the State government would announce the declaration of drought-hit taluks in the first week of September, he said.

For declaration of drought, the drought manual specifies various conditions, including 60% of deficient rainfall, three consecutive weeks of dry spell, less than 75% of crop coverage in the area, less than 50% of the moisture in soil, and the level of water in reservoirs, the Minister said.

A Millet Mela and 'Belladа Parishe' (jaggery mela) would be organised on August 28 in Mandya town for creating awareness on the benefits of millets and jaggery, he said.

Award

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation has bagged Greentech HR Award - 2023, instituted by the Greentech Foundation, for its innovative transformative HR projects undertaken for the welfare of its employees, a release said.

8,000 students to take part in National Sports Day event

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka government will celebrate the National Sports Day on August 29 at Sri Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru.

Close to 8,000 students studying in class VI to class X from across Karnataka will participate in 30 sporting events to be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on August 29, said Minister for Youth Empowerment, Sports, and Tribal Welfare B. Nagendra.

The theme of the event is 'Sports as an enabler of an inclusive and fit society'.

Govt. Of Karnataka
RURAL DRINKING WATER & SANITATION DIVISION, BIDAR
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಗವಾನಚೌಕ್–ಕಿಲಾ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೀದರ–585 401.
ದೂರವಾಣಿ 08482-231688, Email-eerdwsd.bdr1@gmail.com

Ref:EE/RDWSD/Bidar/PB-04/Tender/2023-24/815 Date: 24.08.2023

:: TENDER NOTIFICATION ::

On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka, The Executive Engineer RDWS & S Division Bidar invites Tenders from eligible bidders for the works above Rs. 10.26 Lakhs to 85.35 Lakhs (15 Nos of works) as per KW-1, KW-2 & KW-3 Standard Tender Bid Document under H/A JJM for the year 2021-22 & 2022-23 through https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only. The KTPP Act shall be followed.

TIME SCHEDULE

1) Notification Date and Download of tender schedule documents through e portal : **24.08.2023 to 04.09.2023,** 2) Last date for submission of bids: **04.09.2023 Time : 17.00 PM**, 3) Date & Time of Technical bid opening : **06.09.2023 Time : 11.00 AM**, 4) Date & Time of Financial bid opening : After Technical bid Approval

For details of works and conditions, please contact this office in office hours or visit website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in where the details are available.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
RDWS&S Division Bidar.

DIPR/Bidar/51/KSMC&A/2023-24

KSSIDC KARNATAKA STATE SMALL INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Regd. Office: A.O. Building, Industrial Estate, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560 010.
Telephone: 080-2340 7011 to 25, Fax: 080-23143566
Website: www.kssidc.co.in e-mail: kssidcho@karnataka.gov.in

No. ENGG:SE:ep-74:DPR:Kanagala:Badanaguppe:Indi:2023-24 Dt:24-08-2023

Corrigendum to Bid Submission Date Extension

Name of the work: Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Establishment of 3 New Industrial Estate at 1.Kanagala Grama, Sankeshwara Hobli, Hukkeri Tq, Belagavi Dist. Extent of Land 25.0 Acres. (Black cotton Soil) 2. Badanaguppe-Kellamballi Grama, Chamarajanagara Tq, Chamarajanagara Dist. Extent of Land 25.0 Acres and 3. Budihal Grama Ballolli Hobli, Indi Tq, Vijayapura Dist. Extent of Land 19.38 Acres.

Ref: Notification No. ENGG:SE:ep-74:DPR:Kanagala: Badanaguppe:Indi:2023-24 Dt:16-08-2023

All Intended bidders / agencies are hereby informed that for the above work, the date and time scheduled for closing and submission of above mentioned tender document is re-scheduled as per the details given below

Extension of Time

Sl. No	Ref. to Documents	Corrigendum particulars	
		Existing	Modified
1	Short Term Tender Notification Sl. No - 3 (i) Calendar of Events	• Last Date for Submission of Proposals is 25-08-2023 16.30 hours • Date of Opening of Technical Proposals is 28-08-2023 10.00 hours • Date of Opening of Financial Proposals is 01-09-2023 or after Approval of Technical bid	This Calendar of events read as • Last Date for Submission of Proposals is 28-08-2023 17.30 hours • Date of Opening of Technical Proposals is 30-08-2023 10.00 hours • Date of Opening of Financial Proposals is 05-09-2023 or after Approval of Technical bid

All other terms and conditions in the tender document will remain un-changed

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer
KSSIDC Ltd.,

DIPR/CP/1056 /AKAR/2023-24

Retired IAS, IPS, IFS officers seek action against IIMB faculty

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a counter to a section of current and retired faculty members of the Indian Institute of Management-Bangalore (IIMB) asking corporate leaders to "defund the spread of misinformation and hate speech", a group of 23 retired IAS, IPS, IFS, and Defence Services of Karnataka have written to Devi Prasad Shetty, chairman of the board of governors of the IIMB, seeking action against the faculty members who have written the letter to the corporate leaders.

They appealed to Dr. Shetty "to ensure that no such incidents of dubious nature happen on the campus of IIMB again".

"The very title of the letter that says 'to defund hate speech' reflects their bankrupt mindset and ideological bias," said retired IAS, IPS, IFS, and Defence Services officers and condemned the use of words and phrases such as 'increasing risk of violent conflicts', 'hatred towards minorities', 'genocide', 'annihilation of social fabric', and 'silence of authorities' in the letter to the corporate leaders.

The 23 signatories have also marked a copy of the letter to the Union Minister for Human Resources, the Secretary in the Ministry, and the Director of IIM Bangalore to take appropriate action against current and retired faculty members of the IIMB.

A few days ago, in an open letter, 11 present and six retired IIMB faculty members said India's internal security is "fragile-...with an increasing risk of violent conflicts in the country". The open letter is signed "in our personal capacity", they had said.

"The intention of the signatories is to encourage disruptive forces and destabilise India," said the retired officers in the letter to Dr. Shetty.

The 23 signatories to the letter are: K. Sreedhar Rao, S.L. Gangadharappa, M. Madan Gopal, P.B. Ramamurthy, M. Lakshminarayana, Ramesh Zalki, and N. Prabhakar, all retired IAS officers; M.N. Krishnamurthy, Gopal Hosur, and Bhaskar Rao, all retired IPS officers; Brij Kishore Singh, Ganesh Sugur, R.M.N. Sahai, Kanwerpal, Kishan Singh Sugara, Indu B. Srivastava, Narendra Deo Tiwari, and R. Raju, all retired IFS officers; and S.P. Singh, K.N. Mirji, Vikas Yajurvedi, Rajiv Kalra, and Prakash J.P., all retired armed service officers.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

SAD DEMISE

Ms K DHARANI, 65 years
MA (History), MA (Social Work, MSSW)
(Retd - Revenue Department, Government of Tamil Nadu), attained Acharyan Thiruvadi at 7:30 am on Thursday, 24th August 2023 at her elder brother's residence. Final rites completed same day.

Inserted By
K Prasanna, K Susindra Babu (Brothers), Ms Padma Venkatesan & Advocate Ms K Sumathi (Sisters) & family
Mobile: 9600110073/ 9840051678 / 9444025763

DEATH

V P SANTHANAM
31.05.1952 - 25.08.2023
Retd SO/ SE Madras Atomic Power Station
We will remember you as the most beloved, loveable human being who went out of the way to help his friends and family without any expectations. Please pay your final respect to the great soul at " Shenbaga Nivas", 2 ,Sarma Street, Tambaram East, Chennai- 59" between 12 Noon on 26-08-2023 Saturday till 27-08-2023, 6 am Sunday

You will ever be remembered by:
Mrs. Amutha Santhanam, Srikanth, Divya and Anvay Srinath, Varsha and Swasthi entire Sarma family and friends

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

FOND REMEMBRANCE

Mrs.**L.MEENAKSHI ACHI**
04.06.1944 - 25.08.2020

Dr.Justice
AR. LAKSHMANAN
22.03.1942 - 26.08.2020

"Lived Together And Left Together To Their Heavenly Abode"

L. Arunachalam @ Chandru - AR. Sophy, AR.L. Sundaresan - S. Abirami, AL . Umayal - AL . Kumar, S. Swarnavalli - M. Saminathan R. Arunachalam - A. Soundaram, Grand Children, Great Grand Children & A. RM.A. L. A. A. Family, DEVAKOTTAI.

28-ft Nataraja sculpture from T.N. to grace G-20 venue

B. Kolappan
CHENNAI

Off to capital: The 28-ft Nataraja statue being despatched to New Delhi from Swamimalai in Thanjavur district of Tamil Nadu. At right is the wax model of sculpture. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

A 28-foot Nataraja statue, meant to be placed in front of the venue of the G-20 Leaders' Summit to be held next month in New Delhi, was sent by road on Friday from Swamimalai, a small town in Tamil Nadu's Thanjavur district, known for its bronze sculptures.

The statue, weighing 19 tonnes, and made of eight metals: gold, silver, lead, copper, tin, mercury, iron and zinc (Ashtadhatu), is believed to be the world's tallest Nataraja sculpture.

The statue is on its way to the Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, where the summit is scheduled to be held on September 9 and 10. "Today we sent the unpolished statue to Delhi. The pedestal of the statue will be sent separately. Polishing and final touches to the statue will be done in Delhi," said Srikanta Stapathi of Swamimalai, who along with his brothers Radhakrishna Stapathi and Swaminatha Stapathi, made the statue.

The three are the sons of renowned sculptor Devasenapathy Stapathi.

The statue is 22 feet in height, and the pedestal is six feet, making the entire structure 28 feet tall. "We have followed the model of Chidambaram, Konerirajapuram and other Natarajas of the Chola period in making this statue," said Mr. Srikanta Stapathi. Sculptors Sadasivam, Gowrisankar, Santosh Kumar and Raghavan were also involved in the project.

Sculptors follow the 'lost-wax' casting method to make such statues. Sculptors first make a wax model and encase it in clay. "The clay, known as alluvial soil, is available on a stretch of the Cauvery river that runs through Swamimalai," Mr. Srikanta Stapathi said.

After the clay dries, the whole mass is heated to drain the melted wax. "The space left by the melted wax is filled with molten bronze. After allowing it to cool, we break the mould and chisel the statue to perfection," he said.

Six-month effort

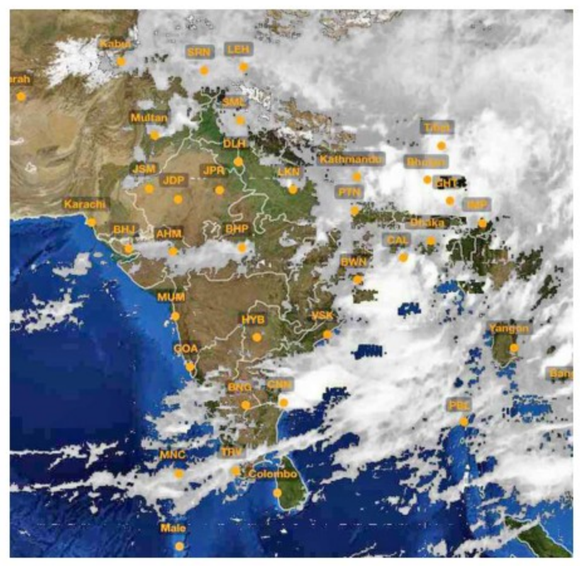
The order for the statue was placed by Union Culture Ministry this February and it took six months to complete the work. "We could have completed it earlier, but for the rain," he said. The cost of the statue is around ₹10 crore.

The statue was handed over to Achal Pandya, professor and HoD (Conservation), the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, who will accompany it to New Delhi.

Sources said Prime Minister Narendra Modi was keen on a Nataraja statue adorning the G-20 venue.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Saturday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Assam, Meghalaya, Sikkim, Bihar and Odisha. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Telangana, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	32.5	25.4	Kozhikode	—	33.6	25.0
Ahmedabad	—	35.4	26.2	Kurnool	—	36.5	26.3
Aizawl	—	24.0	21.4	Lucknow	—	32.8	24.8
Allahabad	21.2	—	24.4	Madurai	—	38.7	24.5
Bengaluru	—	32.2	20.6	Mangaluru	—	30.1	23.5
Bhopal	0.3	—	23.6	Mumbai	—	31.6	26.3
Bhubaneswar	1.2	30.8	24.8	Mysuru	—	32.0	23.0
Chandigarh	—	34.6	25.9	New Delhi	—	35.5	25.3
Chennai	—	36.1	27.4	Patna	—	29.9	25.3
Coimbatore	—	34.8	22.8	Port Blair	—	31.1	24.6
Dehradun	—	33.0	24.4	Puducherry	—	36.7	27.0
Gangtok	35.5	19.4	17.5	Pune	1	29.5	21.9
Goa	—	30.5	23.4	Raipur	—	32.2	25.2
Guwahati	—	33.0	25.4	Ranchi	—	29.6	23.4
Hubballi	—	28.0	23.0	Shillong	—	25.0	18.0
Hyderabad	—	33.8	24.6	Shimla	6.7	27.2	18.6
Imphal	—	30.9	21.6	Srinagar	—	29.2	18.3
Jaipur	—	32.3	25.8	Thiruvananthapuram	—	33.8	24.4
Kochi	—	31.0	25.0	Tiruchi	—	38.7	26.4
Kohima	—	24.2	18.4	Vijayawada	—	35.8	25.9
Kolkata	—	27.8	25.8	Visakhapatnam	—	33.0	26.8

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	5	4	.95	64	75	
Bengaluru	7	7	.44	486	—	
Chennai	5	61	105	—	73	
Delhi	9	13	.34	173	112	
Hyderabad	9	38	.22	55	113	
Kolkata	.12	.29	.36	49	39	
Lucknow	6	5	102	56	72	
Mumbai	7	8	106	35	35	
Pune	133	225	110	39	34	
Visakhapatnam	.20	.34	.76	65	104	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Dhanbad, Jharkhand recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 192 indicating a moderate level of pollution. In contrast, Manguraha, Bihar recorded a healthy AQI score of 11

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

FCRA registration alone won't do to get funds from abroad: Karnataka HC

'Contributions received from abroad are always subject to clearance by the Ministry of Home Affairs'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Mere possession of permanent registration under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010, does not create a right in favour of an organisation to get funds, received from foreign countries, credited to their designated savings bank account, the High Court of Karnataka has said.

The contributions received from abroad are always subject to further clearance by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) as per the provisions of the FCR Act, the court made it clear.

Justice K.S. Hemalekha passed the order while rejecting a petition filed in 2014 by Bengaluru-based Manasa Centre for Development and Social Organisation, a non-governmental organisation (NGO).

Complaining that Development Credit Bank Ltd., Bengaluru, in 2013 illegally did not allow the withdrawal of the amount from the account even though the petitioner is a registered NGO to receive foreign contributions under the FCR Act, the petitioner-NGO had sought direction to the bank to release the amount along with ₹10 lakh as damages.

However, the court noted that the MHA, on securing feedback and inputs from the field/security agency, takes a decision to place foreign donors in the "prior reference/permission category" under the relevant provisions of the FCR Act, 2010.

In one such "prior reference/permission category", the court pointed out, the MHA in 2013 communicated to the RBI to direct all banks to ensure that any fund flow to any individuals/entity in India from 'Dan Church Aid' is brought to the notice of the Ministry for clearance before crediting into the account of the recipient, NGOs, associations, etc.

The court observed that the petitioner-NGO had received two contributions, of ₹5.23 lakh and ₹23.89 lakh, from 'Dan Church Aid' in 2013 and the bank had sought approval from the MHA to credit the amount to the petitioner's account. The bank declined to credit the amount on the instruction received during June-October from the MHA not to credit the amount till approval by the Ministry.

The petitioner was not entitled to get the amount credited into its account without the clearance from the MHA, the court said and rejecting the petition.

9 tea estate workers killed in accident

The Hindu Bureau
KALPETTA

Nine tea plantation workers were killed and five were injured when a private jeep fell into a gorge at Kannothu Mala in Wayanad district on Friday.

The jeep carrying 14 people, including 13 women, was returning after leaf-picking work at a tea plantation at Venmani when the accident occurred around 4 p.m. It was suspected that the driver lost control of the vehicle while negotiating a sharp bend, the police said. Five people, including driver, were admitted to the Government Medical College Hospital at Mananthavady with serious injuries.

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, HABEEB Pasha, r/at No.5, 5th Cross, Shamanna Nagar, Gali Anjaneya Temple, Bangalore-26 have changed my son name from Mohammed Farqan to Mohammed Farhan Pasha, vide affidavit dtd 22.08.2023 sworn before Notary N.Nagappa, Bluru

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF HON'BLE CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYOHALL AT BENGLURU (CH- 29)
O.S. NO. 25630/2021
BETWEEN :
M/s. ICICI BANK LTD
Having its branch office at 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanahalli, Hosur Main Road, Bangalore- 560 068 and represented by its Collection Manager Mr. Pramod G. ...Plaintiff
And
Mr. Vijay Gautham
...Defendant
Summons to Defendant
To,
Mr.Vijay Gautham S/o. Mr. Dhananjeyan, Aged about 35 years, No. B-110, Richmond Pride Apartments, B-blo. Sy No. 81, Omex Circle Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluq, Bengaluru- 560 105
Also at
No. 46, Ambalayam, Ganesh Nagar, 88, Veppampattu, Near Railway Station, Tiruvallur, Tamil Nadu- 602 024
WHEREAS the Plaintiff has instituted theabove proceedings against you. seeking recovery of **Rs. 12,30,365.60/-** as on **19/04/2021** along with interest 24% P.A. and other consequential relief. You are hereby summoned to appear before the **Hon'ble City Civil Judge, Mayohall at Bangalore** (CH-29) in person or by a pleader duly instructed and able to answer all material questions relating to the above proceedings on **26/09/2023** at **11.00 AM,** take notice that in default of your appearance on the day mentioned before the suit will be heard and determined in your absence. Given under my hand and seal of this Court this **18th** day of **August 2023**
By Order of This Deputy Registrar,
CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYOHALL AT BANGALORE
Advocate for plaintiff
Anvaya Law
Advocates and Consultants
first floor Indian Express Buildings No.1 Queens Road Bengaluru- 560001.

District Child Protection Unit
Women and Child Development Department District Balabhavan, M.G.Road Tumkur
E-mail ID;dcpo.tumkur@gmail.com Telephone No-0816-2956699
No.DCPU:Tum:Staff:2023-24 Date: 23.08.2023
E-Procurement Tender Notification
The supply of Manpower to District Child Protection Unit, Childline-1098, Boys Home, Girls Home, Child Welfare Committee, Juvenile Justice Board of working under District Child Protection Unit, Women and Child Development Department in Tumkur District. Here two cover bid system of in the E-Procurement Portal. Be used for furnishing bids by the eligible bidders through E-Procurement Portal we are calling from Date:23-08-2023 to 06-09- 2023 website: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in apply for the Tender last date:06-09-2023 4-00 PM.
Sd/- District Child Protection Officer District Child Protection Unit Tumkur
DIPR/TUM/126/KSMCA/2023-24

Government of Karnataka
City Municipal Council Gadag Betegeri
District : Gadag State: Karnataka Ph : 08372-259932
E-mail : ltstaff.ulb.gadag@gmail.com
ನಂ.ಗಬೆನಸ/ತಾಂ.ವಿ/ಪಾನಿಟಿಂ/2023–24 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 24–08–2023
Re-Tender Notification
The Municipal Commissioner CMC Gadag Betageri invites tender for ANNUAL SUPPLY OF REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE MATERIALS FOR DRINKING WATER SUPPLY TO THE GADAG BATAGERI CITY MUNCIPALE COUNCIL UNDER CMC Gadag-Betageri limit an Estimate amount of Rs. **50.00** Lakhs Emd Rs. **1.00** Lakhs for the period of 2023-24 through KPPP.Portal interested/elgible contractors/Suppliers can participate in tender. For More information contact Technical Section of CMC Gadag Betageri. Indent No: DMA/2023-24/IND0096/Call 2.
(1) Last Date of Submison of Tender Date: **02-09-2023** Evening up to 4.30 PM.
(2) Tender Opening Date : **04-09-2023** at 5.00 PM.
Sd/- (Ramesh Sunagar) Municipal Commissioner CMC, Gadag-Betageri
Sd/-(Smt. Usha M Dasar) Prisident CMC, Gadag-Betageri
DIPR/Gadag/KSMCA/143/2023-24

Hubballi-Dharwad Municipal Corporation
Sir. Siddappa Kambali Road, Hubballi
Phone : 2213898, 2213888
No. HDMC/74/2023-24 Procurement Cell Hubli
Date : 24/08/2023
Tender Notification
(Through KPPP Portal only)
Hubli-Dharwad Municipal Corporation Hubli invites the request for the proposal for Animals Birth Control (ABC) Programme for stray dogs in Hubli-Dharwad Municipal Corporation Limit for three year duration.
The detailed Tender Document containing the all details terms and conditions may be obtained from date : **28-08-2023** in **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
further details contact following address:
Executive Engineer (Procurement Cell) Hubli-Dharwad Municipal Corporation, Hubli
Phone : **0836-2213822** Fax No:- **0836-2213898**
E mail Id – **swmprocurementcell2022@gmail.com**
The Proposals would be evaluated and the Successful Bidder would be selected on the basis of the criteria specified in the RFP document.

Sl.No	Indent No	TENDER DESCRIPTION
1	DMA/2023-24/SE0697	Sterilization (ABC), ARV & De-worming including, catching, post-operative care, releasing or Euthanise the stray dogs, which are sick, rabid and rogue, by putting them to sleep in a humane manner, etc., complete.

SCHEDULE OF BIDDING PROCESS
(1) EMD Amount : As per KPPP Portal (2) Tender Processing Fee : As per KPPP Portal (3) Last date for submission of Tender (Tender Due Date) **14-09-2023** 16.30 PM (4) Date and Time of opening of technical bid **16-09-2023** 10.30 AM (5) Date and Time of opening of financial bid : **20-09-2023** 10.30 AM
Sd/- Executive Engineer (PC)
Hubli-Dharwad Municipal Corporation Hubli
DIPR/DWD/KSMCA/209/2023-24

Govt. of Karnataka
DISTRICT OFFICER, MINORITY WELFARE DEAPARTMENT,
Zilla Panchayat, Kanakadas Badavane, Vijayapura.
Telephone: 08352-295523, E-mail: dominoritybijapur@gmail.com
E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTIFICATION
FOR SUPPLY OF FOOD MATERIALS TO MINORITY WELFARE DEPARTMENT VIJAYAPUR HOSTELS AND SCHOOLS LOCATED IN 05 TALUKAS OF VIJAYAPUR DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR OF 2023-24
The Executive D.O Minority Welfare departmentVijayapur invites Two Tender Document System from eligible suppliers, registered with APMC/RMC/Government for supply of perishable and non-perishable food materials like Grocery, Chicken, Milk and eggs etc and Group-D Items to Minority HOSTELS and SCHOOLS located in Various place in 05 Talukas of VIJAYAPUR district of Karnataka.

1	E-Tender Notification	ಸಂ/ಅಸಂಕಇ/ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್/ಸಿಆರ್–02/2023–24 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24.08.2023			
2	Commencement of download of E-Tender from Website http://e-proc.karnataka.gov.in	24.08.2023			
3	Estimated Amount put to Tender and EMD Amount	Sl. No	Name of Talukas	Amount Put to Tender	EMD Amount
		1	Vijayapura	2,17,50,000	3,26,000
		2	Indi	1,20,25,000	1,80,000
		3	Sindagi	59,50,000	1,19,000
		4	B.Bagewadi	18,75,000	47,000
		5	Muddebihal	1,09,93,131	1,65,000
4	Last date & Time for uploading E-Tender in e-procurement platform	Date: 07.09.2023 (17:30 Hrs)			
5	Prebid Meeting Date & Time	Date: 02.09.2023 (11.00 A.M)			
6	Opening of Technical Bid	Date: 11.09.2023			
7	Demonstration of Samples of articles from the technically qualified bidders	Will be Intimated 12.09.2023			
8	Opening of Financial Bid	Date: 18.09.2023 (Tentitive)			
9	Address for Communication	Minority Welfare Deaprtment, Zilla Panchayat, Kanakadas Badavane Vijayapura Phone No: 08352-295523 Email Id: dominoritybijapur@gmail.com			

Interested bidders can view the tender details and download the bid documents from the website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in
Sd/- District Officer, Minority Welfare Department, Vijayapura
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/123/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2023–24

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to bring to the notice of the General Public that my client lost the Original Power Of Attorney executed by 1. Mr. Nilesh Bhandari S/o Mr. Vijay Kumar Bhandari and 2. Mrs.Ketki Bhandari W/o Mr. Nilesh Bhandari in favor of Mrs. Neelu Jain W/o Mr. Shah Sanjay (as referred in the Sale Deed 15.10.2014, registered as Document bearing No. BTM-1-04621-2014-15, In Book 1, CD No. BTMD75, in the Office of the Sub Registrar, BTM Layout, Bangalore) with respect to the Apartment No. 608, situated on the 6th Floor, Block **"A2"** of apartment complex **"SNN Raj Serenity"**, having 1215 Sq Ftof SBA and 405 SqFt of UDS, constructed on converted Sy. Nos. 40/1, 40/2, 40/3, 40/4, 40/5, 40/6 situated Yelenahalli Village, Begur Hobli, BSTQand Sy No. 49/1 situated at Begur Village, Begur Hobli, BSTQ. In this regard an online police complaintalso lodged as on 23.08.2023, registered as Lost Report No. 0696265/2023.
If any person has any claim or holding of the aforesaid document may contact the undersigned within 7 days from the date of this notice. Failing which it will be presumed that there are no claims.
John Peter
Advocate
No.22, 4th Floor, Hara Chambers, K H Road, B'lore - 560 027.
Mobile: 70199 23445.

KRISHNA BHAGYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Under Taking)
Office of the Executive Engineer, KBJNL.NLBC Division, Rodalabanda-584127
Tq.Lingasugur Dist.Raichur email:kbjnlnlbc4@gmail.com
No.KBJNL/NLBC/PB/2023-24/711 Date:- 25-08-2023
QUOTATION NOTIFICATION
ಉಲ್ಲೇಖ:– ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಆದೇಶ ಸಂ:ಕಸಂಪಾ:04:ವಾಪ್ರಜಾ:2017 ದಿ: 19–01–2017
Sealed quotations are invited by the under signed on behalf of Managing Director KBJNL Bangaluru from the reputed Firms/Contractors/ Consultants for Consultancy services for survey, investigation, preparation of PFR/DPR and detailed estimates for the work of Extension, Renovation and Modernization of Rampur LIS Main Canal, distributaries, laterals, sub laterals , structures there under including liasoning with various Directorates of CWC for obtaining approval The item wise detailed technical specification are uploaded in KBJNL website; www.kbjnl.karnataka.gov.in.
The sealed quotations should reach the office of the undersigned either by post or in person on or before 02.09.2023 upto 2.00 PM. The sealed quotations will be opened at the office of the undersigned on 02.09.2023 at 3.00 PM.
The agency should note that the item rates quoted shall be inclusive of all applicable taxes, duties, packing, transportations, loading and unloading and other hidden charges etc.,
Sd/- Executive Engineer,
KBJNL, NLBC Division, Rodalabanda
DIP/RCR/103KSMC&A/Job No.99/2023-24

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
Registered & Corporate Office : Bidyut Unnayan Bhaban
Plot No.: 3/C, LA - Block, Sector- III, Bidhannagar, Kol-700106
Notice Inviting E-Tender
Ref No.: WBPDCL/Tend-Adv/23-24/CORP/CC-598 Date: 24.08.2023
NIT No.: WBPDCL/CORP/NIT/E1756/23-24 (4th Call) Dated : 21.08.2023
Loading of Coal into Rail Wagons at Hazaratpur Railway Siding including allied works.
NIT Document Download Start Date/End Date : 24.08.2023 at 05.00 P.M./15.09.2023 till 02.00 P.M. **Contact Person:** Ipsita Chaudhuri, Manager (PS), M&C, Corporate. **Contact No.:** 9830616477. **E-mail:** ichaudhuri@wbpdcl.co.in For details please visit: **https://wbtenders.gov.in**
ICA- T17485(3)/2023

Asset Reconstruction Company (India) Ltd. (Arcil)
acting in its capacity as Trustee of Arcil-CPS-008-II Trust set up in respect of financial assets pertaining to Coastal Projects Limited (in liquidation)
Arcil office:- The Ruby, 10th Floor, 29, Senapati Bapat Marg, Dadar (West) Mumbai-400028, Website: www.arcil.co.in
ADDENDUM
Sale Notice for sale of Immovable properties published on August 09, 2023, in "The Hindu" English Edition and "Udayavani" Kannada Edition.
Notice is hereby given that the auction of the immovable assets of Mr. M.Gopal (Guarantor) scheduled on August 28, 2023 is now rescheduled to September 04, 2023 at 3:00 pm and accordingly last day for submission of bids is fixed on September 04, 2023 till 12:00 noon. Other terms and conditions of notice dated August 09, 2023 remain unchanged.
Place: Mumbai Sd/- Authorised Officer
Date: August 26, 2023 Asset Reconstruction Company (India) Ltd.

Concrete alliance

BRICS found new purpose with expansion; but contradictions too

If there was any doubt about the relevance of the BRICS grouping (Brazil-Russia-India-China-South Africa), which held its 15th Summit in Johannesburg this week, the massive global interest in its outcomes should have put those to rest. Ever since the grouping, set up as a coalition of emerging economies, said last year that it was open to new members, as many as 40 countries from the global south have evinced interest in joining, with at least 22 formal applications. The decision to more than double its membership overnight, from 5 to 11, by inducting four major middle eastern players, Egypt, Iran, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, as well as Ethiopia and Argentina, from Africa and South America, respectively, is significant. The enthusiasm is obvious. BRICS has weathered several storms and is today seen, if not as any alternative, as a counter-narrative creator to the western-led G-7 club on diverse issues: from climate change commitments and UN reform to its rejection of unilateral western sanctions against Iran, Russia and Venezuela. By also creating the New Development Bank, which has funded nearly 100 projects so far, instituting a Contingent Reserve Arrangement, and other institutional mechanisms, the BRICS countries have also shown their ability to work on practical initiatives. While the grouping may not yet rival the wealth of the G-7, it does now rival its share of the global GDP (approximately 30% each), and represents a more equitable representation across 40% of the world's population to the G-7 countries that make up just 10%. Once the new members join, six of 10 of the biggest global oil suppliers will be BRICS countries, giving BRICS new heft in the field of energy.

While the battle of proving its *raison d'être* may have been substantially won, the BRICS countries still fall short in showing a coherence of purpose, and are still mired by inner contradictions. The rivalry between India and China has no doubt slowed the grouping down and the induction of arch rivals Iran and Saudi Arabia-UAE, despite their recent détente, could well create similar issues for the group in the future. In addition, any overtly political, anti-western stance by BRICS will make India, and other countries in the grouping who walk a tightrope between the global powers, including Egypt, the UAE, Saudi Arabia and Brazil, uncomfortable. Russia's invasion of Ukraine too has caused uneasiness, and BRICS members did not vote as a bloc on any of the UN votes; nor did any of the other members support Russia's actions. Above all, any attempts by China to overpower the group with its strategic or economic vision will require a firm pushback if the foundational idea of BRICS, to assert the strategic autonomy of its members, is to be followed. Eventually it is the promise of shared prosperity and a more democratic model of global governance that attracts so many in the global south to the grouping, and will provide the mortar for an expanded line-up of BRICS countries.

Unchecked run

Carlsen remains the man to beat in chess, but Indians present a challenge

The Chess World Cup, which concluded at Baku on Thursday, caught the imagination of the Indian public the way very few sporting events have of late. Eighteen-year-old Chennai lad R. Praggnanandhaa's astonishing run all the way to the final was the main reason. However, he was stopped by Magnus Carlsen, the highest-rated player in history. The Norwegian is a five-time world champion, but this is his first World Cup, the only significant trophy that had been missing in his cabinet. Ever since Carlsen dethroned Viswanathan Anand in the latter's hometown Chennai in 2013, the former's reign on the chessboard has been absolute. If he is no longer the official world champion – that title now belongs to China's Ding Liren, who was crowned a few months ago – it is because he has chosen to stay away. He does not find the motivation strong enough and he is not comfortable with the format of the World title match involving a series of games of a long duration. He has said that he would not be a part of the next cycle of the World championship either. This is not Carlsen's loss; it is chess's. Whoever wins the World title cannot claim to be the planet's best player as long as Carlsen is around.

Not many in international sport have skipped vying for the World title when they are at the top of their game. But then, not many sportspersons across disciplines have been as good as Carlsen has for such a long time. Praggnanandhaa is one young player who has given Carlsen cause for some worry in recent times. He made headlines when he scored multiple wins over his formidable rival last year. Any win against the World No. 1 is commendable, but what makes Praggnanandhaa special is that he is still very young and could get stronger. He is ranked 29th in the world and it will be safe to bet that he will break into the top 10 in the not too distant future. At Baku, he accounted for the World No. 2 and No. 3, Hikaru Nakamura and Fabiano Caruana. But he was not the only Indian to impress at the World Cup. In fact, his rival in the quarterfinal was Arjun Erigaisi. D. Gukesh, who was the first Indian to make news in Azerbaijan by breaking into the world's top 10 and replacing Anand as the India No. 1 in live rating, was Carlsen's opponent in the quarterfinal. Vidit Gujrathi ensured that four of the last eight players left in this prestigious event were Indians. India is shining bright with a whole generation of young talent.

Rethink the dynamics of India's fiscal federalism

M.A. Oommen

is Honorary Fellow, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, and Distinguished Fellow, Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation, Thiruvananthapuram

A 'holding together federation' with a built-in unitary bias, the Indian Constitution was the contextual product of centrifugal forces and fissiparous tendencies in the run-up to Independence. It has journeyed over 73 years with remarkable resilience. Even so, the emerging dynamics of India's fiscal federalism needs some rethinking. The paradigm shift from a planned economy to a market-mediated economic system, the transformation of a two-tier federation into a multi-tier fiscal system following the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments, the abolition of the Planning Commission and its replacement with NITI Aayog, the passing of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act, with all the States forced to fall in line, the Goods and Services (GST) Act with the GST Council holding the controlling lever, the extensive use of cess and surcharges which affect the size of the divisible pool and so on have altered the fiscal landscape with varying consequences on India's federalism. I raise just four issues.

One, India's intergovernmental transfer system should be decidedly more equity-oriented. Although the natural proclivity of any market-mediated growth process is to work in favour of the propertied class, the actual experience in India has been astounding. Chancel and Piketty (2019) estimate that the top 1% earners in India captured less than 21% of the total income in the 1930s, but this was drastically reduced to 6% in the early 1980s and then rose to 22% during the liberalisation era. To be sure, the tax exemptions, tax concessions and other revenues forgone in recent times disproportionately favoured the rich and have reduced the size of the divisible pool.

Equity as concern for 16th finance body

My study on the convergence trajectory of per capita income (PCI) of 16 major States from 1970-71 through 2020-21, based on *Economic and Political Weekly* Research Foundation (EPWRF) data, shows an increasingly divergent trend, where the standard deviation value of log PCI has increased to 0.231 in 2020-2021 from 0.186 in 1991-1992, registering a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 0.72%. On the other hand, following United Nations Development Programme methodology, Oommen and Parma (in a forthcoming paper in the *EPW*) argue that the Human Development Index (HDI) across 15 States shows a convergence during the post-reform period. The standard deviation value of HDI is reduced to 0.268 in 2018 from 0.611 in 1991. Instructively the disaggregated picture since 2005 that spans FRBM legislations shows a declining rate of convergence with a high CAGR of minus 2.85%. Indeed, equity should be the overarching concern of the 16th Finance Commission and that HDI could be considered as a strong candidate in the horizontal distribution of tax devolution. Second, there is a case for revisiting Article 246 and the Seventh Schedule for a denovo division of powers, functions and responsibilities for a variety of reasons.

Beginning with the shift from a planned economy to a market-mediated economic system, there are a number of issues that have varying consequences on India's fiscal federalism which need review

First, India is no longer the one-party governance of post-Independence times. It has become a truly multi-party system. The nature of polity, society, technology, demographic structure and the development paradigm itself have significantly changed.

Second, under the changing dispensation, several pieces of central legislation such as the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act 2009, the National Food Security Act 2013 and many others impose an extra burden on the States. The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister recently raised the issue of shifting education from the Concurrent List to the State List.

Third, at the time of constitution-making, we never asked the pertinent question of who should do what and who should tax what? We borrowed copiously from the Government of India Act 1935 and failed to apply the subsidiarity principle, *viz.*, that whatever could be done best at a particular level should be done at that level and not at a higher level, in the division of functions and finance. Although the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments provided an opportunity to re-examine the issue, nothing was done. In fact, more confusion was added with the introduction of Schedule XI and Schedule XII, which, respectively, list out the subject matter for the panchayat raj institutions and municipalities by simply lifting items from the State list and Concurrent list. They lack operational meaning unless they are broken down into activities and sub-activities, as Kerala and a few others have done. Again, the retention of the irrelevant item No. 5 in the State list is an affront on the third tier. A new local list that will map out the functional and financial responsibilities of the panchayat raj institutions and municipalities is but inevitable.

A respectable place for the third tier

Fourth, the persistent failure to place the third tier properly on the fiscal federal map of India is a serious issue. The absence of a uniform financial reporting system (standard budgeting rules for all tiers, introduction of the accrual-based accounting system long recommended and so on) comprising all levels of government is a major deficit which the coming Union Finance Commission may be required to address. Although the Constitution refers to the third tier as 'institutions of self-government', policymakers, experts and even the UFCs generally refer to them as 'local bodies' and have not given the respect and the handholding they deserve. The failure in building the local democratic base of India, which has over 3.2 million elected representatives, and 2.5 lakh rural and urban local governments, is an enigma. is well-recognised that the prime objective of our federation with deep heterogeneity is to provide basic services of standard quality to every citizen irrespective of her choice of residence and they have a critical role to play. Will the terms of reference of the next Commission consider this?

Review off-Budget borrowing

Fifth, there is a great need to review the off-Budget borrowing practices of both the Union and the States. Off-Budget borrowings mean all borrowings not provided for in the Budget but whose repayment liabilities fall on the Budget. They are generally unscrutinised and unreported. That all income and expenditure transactions should fall under some Budget head or other is a universal principle. State public sector undertakings and special purpose vehicles raise resources from the markets, but their servicing burden often falls on the State government. In cases where the government is the ultimate guarantor, the burden of repaying the debt also falls on the State.

The central government that should set good examples is probably more guilty of off-Budget borrowing than the States. Although the States are disciplined through Article 293(3) by the Union and through the FRBM Act, the Union often escapes such controls. The liberal utilisation of the National Small Saving Fund (NSSF) for extra-budgetary financing of central public sector undertakings and central ministries by way of loans is not reflected in the Union fiscal deficits. This is because only the Consolidated Fund of India balance is considered for calculating fiscal deficit, and items in public accounts such as the NSSF are kept out. While the borrowing space of States is restricted, the Union escapes such discipline. There is also a huge area of special banking arrangements using public sector banks to facilitate cash and credit flow outside the budgetary appropriations to help various agencies involved in quasi-fiscal operations with the government. Transparency guarantees and public accountability demand that the Union, States and local governments come clean and bring all extra-budgetary transactions to the public domain.

In sum, the dynamics of the emerging fiscal federalism of India entails significant rethinking especially in the context of the 16th Finance Commission.

Cleantech, for an inclusive green future in India

Abhishek Jain

is a Fellow at the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) and Director of 'Powering Livelihoods'

In his address to the nation on Independence Day this year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi talked about India showing the world how to combat climate change. India's experience has shown that climate action is only effective and embraced at scale if it aligns with the development aspirations of millions and contributes to economic growth.

The green economy paradigm provides an optimistic pathway to align development and environmental outcomes. For instance, building a solar park or an electric vehicle charging station helps expand the much-needed infrastructure in a developing economy while furthering climate action. Similarly, reviving millets helps improve farm incomes in rain-fed areas while making our agriculture climate resilient. But how do we take this green economy paradigm to the heart of our development needs in the form of youth looking for jobs, women seeking income opportunities, or farmers waiting to diversify their incomes?

Initiatives in the hinterlands

In recent years, different initiatives have taken the green economy approach to the hinterlands of India by enabling access to cleantech solutions for livelihoods among the rural population. For instance, solar dryers converting throwaway tomatoes into sun-dried ones in Andhra Pradesh, biomass-powered cold storages helping farmers in Maharashtra selling lemons make a gain that is three to five times that of the original price, or solar silk reeling machines reducing drudgery for thigh-reelers and doubling their income in Odisha are some of the 50,000-plus examples of how cleantech solutions are already contributing to the jobs and incomes of rural women and men.

But this silent revolution that is underway from Rajasthan to Nagaland and Kashmir to Tamil Nadu now needs a structural boost. India's rural economy that comprises 120 million farmers and 34 million microenterprises often struggles with unreliable electricity access and a dependence on expensive and imported diesel. These cleantech solutions that are powered by renewable energy can help India reduce its diesel imports, avoid the loss of perishable food and enhance rural livelihood opportunities while posing an investment opportunity worth $50 billion for investors and financiers.

Cleantech can deliver on development and climate action in the country's rural areas

Research at the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) shows that just 12 such cleantech solutions (varying from solar pumps to cold storages to *charkhas* and looms) have the potential to impact at least 37 million livelihoods or about 16% of our rural population. There needs to be a three-fold approach to traverse this journey from 50,000-plus to tens of millions.

Steps to scale up

First, leverage existing government programmes supporting livelihoods. For instance, the Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana that extends collateral-free loans for microenterprises can be used to enable the adoption of cleantech solutions. Similarly, the Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (PM-FME) scheme that supports the adoption of technology among micro food enterprises can be used to unlock support for solutions such as a solar dryer, an energy-efficient multipurpose food processor or a solar grain mill.

Likewise, the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana can be leveraged towards adopting solar refrigerators and dryers for fishing communities. Finally, the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund, which has only seen a 15% fund utilisation against a target of ₹1,00,000 crore, can support the adoption of biomass-powered cold storage and beyond.

Second, enable large-scale financing of cleantech solutions. It requires supporting bankers' capacity on credit assessment for cleantech because they have not come across such solutions and the associated cash flows before to make an informed assessment. We also need to hedge their risks in the initial stages of the market through partial guarantees. Moreover, active engagement with financiers is important to structure loan products that are aligned with the cash flow scenarios of users. Adopting some of these principles helped 'Powering Livelihoods', a CEEW-Villgro initiative, unlock 300-plus loans for cleantech solutions to women, self help groups, farmer producer organisations and individual microentrepreneurs in rural areas.

Third, enable multi-actor partnerships between technology innovators, manufacturers, distributors and service providers, financiers, and market-linkage players to enable an overall ecosystem. Cleantech manufacturers often need help bringing their products to customers. The challenges faced include low product awareness, high customer acquisition cost as users need to touch and feel these products before adoption, and low density of customers for such products in a given area. Users too, at times, struggle with limited after-sales service and market linkage of the final processed products.

We need a holistic ecosystem where distributors work with manufacturers to enable technology access at the last mile, service providers ensure after-sales services, and market-linkage players enable the connection to the market to create a thriving ecosystem for cleantech to impact rural livelihoods at scale. For instance, there are solar dyer companies that are not only deploying dryers but are also enabling financing for users to adopt the dryers and buying back the final produce from them to ensure market linkages.

India has massive ambitions for a clean and green future. By focusing on cleantech for livelihoods and jobs, especially in rural areas, we can make that green future inclusive.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Notes from Parliament

"Observing celebrities in Parliament" (Opinion page – 'Notebook', August 25) also showed how the famous can be ill at ease in a political environment. At the same time, many so-called politicians do not contribute much to the welfare of their constituencies. It is all a matter of personal ability. A nation will develop only when political parties ensure that visionaries occupy Parliament.

Arun B. Asok,
Enkakad, Thrissur, Kerala

Experience shows that most celebrities who become Members of Parliament turn into misfits. It is for parties to ensure that celebrities do not become a 'nuisance and burden' on the exchequer. A developing country such as India can ill afford the disregard celebrities have for parliamentary conventions and practices.

C.G. Kuriakose,
Kothamangalam, Kerala

Sportspersons and actors may be luminaries but they do need different skills to ensure that their stint in Parliament has value. Calling them sitting ducks is apt — a reflection of their scant knowledge overall.

Sanath Kumar T.S.,
Thrissur, Kerala

Well fought

At 18, an age when boys are drawn towards movies and computer games, R. Praggnanandhaa has shown that he belongs to a different class ('Sport' page, August 25). The prodigy has a long way to go but with fine tuning, is sure to wear the chess crown for years.

A.P. Thiruvadi,
Chennai

As a sportsperson, I know how hard a game can be. R. Praggnanandhaa has made the country and his parents proud. Even though he lost his match against Magnus Carlsen, he has not given up. Many people in our nation possess these talents but cannot showcase them. This happens when the parents do not encourage their children to pursue sports in the long run. I hope 'Pragg' inspires others so that many young people will take up sports ('Sport' page, "I think people will start noticing Indian chess, says Praggnanandhaa", August 25).

Riya T.T.,
Bengaluru

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

A police van stands outside the house of Dalit Anganwadi worker Ambikapathi, in Nanguneri town in Tirunelveli district. Ambikapathi's son and daughter were attacked by three OBC boys on the night of August 9. A. SHAIKMOHIDEEN

Felled by caste pride in Nanguneri town

On August 9, a Dalit boy and his sister were brutally assaulted at home by their schoolmates who belong to an intermediate dominant caste in Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu. While the siblings have survived, fear has gripped the Scheduled Castes in Nanguneri. **P. Sudhakar** reports on the ways in which caste violence affects the lives of the people on the fringes

The blood has dried on the steps of Ambikapathi's single-room house in Nanguneri, a drought-ridden and crime-prone town in Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu. This is the spot where, on August 9, her children were brutally attacked by her son's classmates. The asbestos roof and small porch are clean, but the reddish-brown streaks serve as a reminder of the caste violence that erupt periodically in southern Tamil Nadu.

Ambikapathi, an Anganwadi worker, fears for the lives of her children – her son is 17 and her daughter 14 – but is relieved at the moment that they have survived the assault by the three boys, all Thevars, a dominant, intermediate Other Backward Classes (OBC) community. "My son used to keep getting harassed just because we are Dalits, at the government-aided higher secondary school in Valliyoor [about 12 kilometres away]. Those boys would keep asserting their caste superiority. They would force him to do petty tasks for them, such as buying snacks, cigarettes, and tickets to travel by private buses. When he resisted, he was beaten up," she says.

It was only when her son, frightened and tired of the abuse of more than two months, stopped going to school that Ambikapathi heard about the harassment, she says. She decided to submit a written complaint to the school administration. She believes that it was this act that led to the horrific incident of August 9.

> My son used to keep getting harassed just because we are Dalits. The OBC boys would force my son to do petty tasks for them. When he resisted, he was beaten up
>
> **AMBIKAPATHI**
> Mother of victim

A sickle, and screams

Ambikapathi wrote the complaint on the morning of that fateful day when the three OBC boys were absent from school. "That evening, they threatened him," she says. "Frustrated, my son decided to run away to Chennai to find a job. He managed only to reach Nanguneri station. A relative who works there spotted him and sent him back home."

The headmistress of the school in Valliyoor, Grace Celin, says that action would have been taken against the students if the victim had brought the abuse to her notice earlier. "We closely monitor our students to avert caste-based issues on our school premises," she says.

At around 10 p.m. on the day that Ambikapathi wrote the complaint, the three OBC boys, armed with a sickle, barged into her house on Nanguneri's Peruntheru (big street), a Scheduled Caste (SC) locality. Ambikapathi was not at home. The boys attacked her son and daughter repeatedly. The siblings sustained multiple injuries on their hands, shoulders, and thighs. Hearing their screams, the neighbours ran in to help and saw the two children lying in a pool of blood.

The assailants fled seeing the neighbours. They escaped with the help of their friends who had been waiting for them on bikes, a few metres away. The neighbours first took the boy and his sister to the Nanguneri Government Hospital for first aid. Then they rushed the siblings to the Tirunelveli Medical College Hospital.

"The smell of the blood is gone, but we can't stop hearing the screams of the boy and girl," says one neighbour, shuddering.

The attack triggered panic and caused outrage in Peruntheru, which has about 150 families. The relatives of the victims staged a road roko on the stretch from the Tirunelveli-Kanniyakumari National Highway towards Nanguneri demanding the arrest of the three boys. On seeing the scene of crime and the bloodstains, the victim's grandfather Krishnan, 55, too joined the protesters. The family faced another blow when Krishnan collapsed during the protest. He was rushed to the Nanguneri Government Hospital on a bike. He was declared dead on arrival.

The siblings have undergone surgery and are now recuperating at the Tirunelveli Medical College Hospital's Super-Speciality Block.

"When the *Annanmaar* (brothers) stormed into our house that night, I thought they would verbally abuse us and leave," recalls Ambikapathi's daughter. "But one of them attacked my brother with a sickle. He gave the weapon to his friend to attack my brother again. When I tried to save my brother, I also suffered injuries. The third boy also assaulted us with the sickle." She is traumatised by the attack and is still in pain.

Besides arresting the three teenagers who were directly involved in the attack, the police have also detained three of their associates, all juveniles, who are from the same community, for helping them escape. Vallikannu, 20, another associate who helped the assailants flee Nanguneri, has also been arrested by the police team, led by deputy superintendent of police Raju. The police have registered cases under six sections of the Indian Penal Code: Sections 294 (b) – sings, recites or utters obscene songs in public; 307 – attempt to murder; 324 – causing hurt by dangerous weapons; 352 – assault; 452 – house trespass; and 506 (2) – criminal intimidation. They have also registered cases under four sections of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (ST) (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

Caste dynamics

While the dominant caste group has land and farms in Nanguneri and a few nearby villages, the SC families are largely landless and powerless and live on the fringes.

The Dalits say clashes between the two communities take place frequently. "Since we are farmhands and manual labourers, we take loans from the Thevar moneylenders even though they charge an exorbitant interest. When we cannot repay the loan with the interest, they take our properties. They stock paddy straw on our vacant lands when we don't pay the loans on time. Then, they register the land, properly but forcibly, and it becomes theirs," says a farmer.

The school where the victims study, at Valliyoor. A. SHAIKMOHIDEEN

Another farmer who has a small holding near Nanguneri says he had left his land barren for a couple of years when the monsoon failed. "But a moneylender ploughed my land for raising fodder. When I objected to it, he said that he had cultivated cattle fodder in the barren land and would return the land after harvesting the crop. That never happened. He later forced me to sell the land to him at a price fixed by him. Since he threatened me saying he would target my son, I had to," he says.

S. Nagarajan from Valliyoor says unemployed SCs don't buy autorickshaws with subsidised loans from the government as people of the intermediate caste avoid such vehicles.

Such persecution has also spilled into school. "Boys from the intermediate caste would write their caste names on the walls of the buildings and toilets and engrave their names on desks," says a former teacher at a school in Nanguneri.

Such incidents impacted the student count at the Sankar Reddiyar Government High School in Nanguneri. The number of students has gone down to a few hundred from 1,500 a few years ago, says the teacher. Parents of all communities, including SCs and OBCs, took their children out from the school. Some of the students now attend school in places such as Valliyoor, Moolaikkaraipatti, Kalakkadu, and Palayamkottai.

Duraipandi, a resident of Peruntheru, says, "We cannot even go to the Nanguneri police station to file a complaint about caste atrocities as we have to cross four streets in which the dominant community people live in large numbers."

Advocate A. Maria James, founder of a Nanguneri-based NGO called Rural Uplift Centre, is the head of a fact-finding team that visited Nanguneri after the attack. He says properties including land, buildings, and shops belonging to the Nanguneri Vaanamaamalai temple are given on lease only to the dominant caste people, who are already rich thanks to their farming operations, realty, and money lending businesses. "The cultural, caste, and financial dominance of these people makes them stronger, while the other side is rendered weaker. The weaker section cannot even sell their property at their own will or price as the dominant caste fixes the rates," he says.

> The younger lot sees posters, flags, and photos showcasing their caste pride and feel that they have some superpower. When such power is questioned, they don't hesitate to attack the 'opponents', who are mostly SC
>
> **SAMUEL ASIR RAJ**
> Professor of Sociology, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University

The festivals of the Vaanamaamalai temple are used as occasions to assert caste 'supremacy' as the dominant caste posits itself as the "ruling class," he says. "This impacts children and young men, who then orchestrate attacks like this."

The OBCs do not believe that the latest incident in Nanguneri was a result of caste. V. Maharajan, the founder of Netaji Subhash Senai, a caste outfit, and who is popular in the community, is categorical in denying conflict. "I do not support the attack on the SC teenagers. The attackers should face the legal consequences. We want harmony among all the castes," he says. "But there was no ragging of the Dalit boy. After minor altercations broke out between the boys of the two communities, the victim, who mobilised a group of SC teenagers from Valliyoor, assaulted the three boys from our community in the first week of August and did not go to school fearing retaliation. Moreover, his mother gave a false complaint against the three boys from our community. When the parents of the three boys were informed by the teachers about the complaint, they beat the boys up. No one supported the boys. The attack happened subsequently, which cannot be justified."

Maharajan insists that there has been no friction or clash between the two communities in Nanguneri. He says two SC boys as well as OBC boys from six hamlets around Nanguneri all played in the Vaanamaamalai Perumal Nanguneri kabaddi team. Citing another incident of "harmony", he says Dalit boys joined him in an agitation that he had organised against 'excess toll collection' at the Nanguneri toll plaza.

"There was no SC and ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act case pending in the Nanguneri police station before this. Only SC political outfits and the State government have been claiming that this is a caste clash for their own political gain. When seven boys from our community were beaten up recently by the people from the other community and one was even murdered at the Pallakkaal Pothukkudi Government Higher Secondary School near Cheranmahadevi, no one supported us," he says.

The colours of caste groups

Members of the fact-finding committee elaborate on the other ways in which caste pride and hegemony are ingrained in the region. They say posters and banners asserting caste identity are pasted by leaders of dominant caste groups, and caste flags are hoisted during celebrations. Posters in red and yellow are used by the dominant OBCs during temple festivals, weddings, and ear-piercing ceremonies. Young men wear dhotis with red and yellow borders and some drape shawls in these colours around their neck.

"The message taught to the younger generation of this caste by the elders of their families as well as the caste outfits makes them firmly believe that they are the supreme force in the place where they live. They see these posters, banners, flags, and photos showcasing their caste pride and feel that they have some superpower. When such power is questioned, they don't hesitate to attack the 'opponents', who are mostly SC," says Samuel Asir Raj, a professor of sociology at Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, who was part of a fact-finding committee of the People's Union for Civil Liberties, a human rights body that visited the area after the incident.

Raj also cites the recent murder of two people from an intermediate community by young men of a dominant community near Tirunelveli to illustrate his point. "The message is strong and clear: 'whoever challenges our supremacy will be removed,'" he says.

Dalits use red and green as markers of their identity. While threads in all these colours, which were worn earlier in schools, have been banned in educational institutions, they can still be seen elsewhere – on electric poles, drinking water pipes, highway signboards, bus stops, primary health centres and overhead tanks.

When three murders with caste overtones took place in a hamlet in the southern part of neighbouring Thoothukudi district in June 2022, Superintendent of Police L. Balaji Saravanan held talks with the residents of Thalaivanvadali village in the district to remove the red and yellow caste flag fluttering atop the flag mast installed at the centre of the hamlet. Ever since he assumed this post, Saravanan has been organising 'In Search of Change' awareness programmes in several villages through police stations.

"When we started the drive against these 'caste colours' in trouble-prone villages a week ago, the villagers removed banners in these colours from 2,322 spots until August 23," he says.

While laudable efforts are being made to stop assertion of caste identity, erasing the imprint that such practices have made on young minds will take much longer. So will the trauma of the victims. A surgeon of the Tirunelveli Medical College Hospital says that the hands of the two victims in Nanguneri will need constant physiotherapy. "If they cannot use their hands properly despite surgical procedures and physiotherapy, the government should help them in an appropriate manner," he says. "As of now, the government has done only mandatory things mentioned in the law. Nothing beyond that."

From Page One

SC shifts 27 CBI cases in Manipur to Assam

The Chief Justice responded that the Supreme Court was not asking the Assam government, but the Gauhati Chief Justice, to nominate the pre-trial judges.

"There have been victims in the valleys of Manipur and there have been victims in the hills of Manipur. People belonging to community A have suffered, people belonging to community B have suffered... We are not on who suffered more... We are concerned about fair trial... We are today at an anterior stage. There are some immediate things to be done like production of accused, judicial remands, extension of remands, recording the statements of victims and witnesses, etc. These things have to be done immediately...," Chief Justice Chandrachud explained.

The Chief Justice said no order was "cast in stone".

"When the actual trial starts, we will review this order. At that stage, if we find that Manipur has returned to normalcy, we will bring the cases back to be tried in Manipur. We can do that under Article 142 of the Constitution... What we are doing now is only for the present moment," Chief Justice Chandrachud assured the victims' side.

Issuing a series of directions for the conduct of the pre-trial processes while taking into consideration "the overall environment in Manipur and the fairness of criminal justice process", the Supreme Court ordered that applications for producing the accused before the judge, judicial remand, extension of custody and other proceedings in connection with the investigation would be heard online by the designated Gauhati courts, considering the security and distances involved. Even applications for arrest warrants should be made online, said the court.

Handle border issue properly, says Xi

Neither side had acknowledged the meeting on Wednesday, but on Thursday, Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra said that both sides had agreed to step up efforts for the disengagement of troops and de-escalation of tensions along the Line of Actual Control after a conversation between the two leaders the previous day.

While Mr. Modi and Mr. Xi had spoken briefly on the sidelines of the Bali G-20 summit dinner last year about the need to "stabilise the LAC", where a military stand-off has been under way since April 2020, this is the first such conversation in the past three years where the two leaders spoke at some length about resolving the issue. It could represent a thaw in ties that have been in limbo. "In a conversation with President Xi Jinping of China, PM highlighted India's concerns on the unresolved issues along the LAC in the western sector of the India-China border areas," Mr. Kwatra said, adding that the two leaders had decided to "direct their relevant officials to intensify efforts at expeditious disengagement and de-escalation". Military commanders from both sides have in recent days been negotiating modalities for disengagement at two remaining points of friction in Demchok and Depsang.

The statement from Beijing early on Friday provided little detail on the talks, only saying that "the two leaders had a candid and in-depth exchange of views on current China-India relations and other questions of shared interest", and noted that the talks had been held at Mr. Modi's request. "President Xi stressed that improving China-India relations serves the common interests of the two countries and peoples, and is also conducive to peace, stability and development of the world and the region," the statement said. "The two sides should bear in mind the overall interests of their bilateral relations and handle properly the border issue so as to jointly safeguard peace and tranquility in the border region," it added.

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson added on Friday that China "hopes to work with India to act on the important common understandings between the two leaders, increase strategic mutual trust, focus on our consensus and cooperation, remove disturbances and obstacles and advance the bilateral relations along a sound and stable track."

"The boundary question is a historical issue and does not represent the entirety of China-India relations. We should place it appropriately in our bilateral relations and seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement through peaceful and friendly consultations," spokesperson Wang Wenbin said. "Before the boundary question is settled, the two sides need to jointly safeguard peace and tranquillity in the border areas."

Pragyan traverses 8 metres on moon

The ISRO said Pragyan payloads had been "turned on". "All planned Rover movements have been verified... The Rover payloads Laser Induced Breakdown Spectroscope (LIBS) and Alpha Particle X-ray Spectrometer (APXS) are turned on," it said. The objective of the two payloads is to derive the elemental composition in the vicinity of the landing site.

The lander has four payloads to study thermal conductivity, temperature, seismicity, and other characteristics of lunar surface. Of them, three payloads – ILSA, RAMBHA and ChaSTE – have been turned on.

AIMPLB's stand sought on *nikah halala, muta*

Ziya Us Salam
NEW DELHI

The Law Commission has asked the All India Muslim Personal Law Board to unambiguously state its position on *nikah halala* and *muta*, two controversial forms of marriage. It also sought clarification on Islamic law regarding the minimum age for marriage.

These queries were posed by Law Commission Chairman Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi (retd) in a meeting on Thursday with an 11-member delegation of the AIMPLB.

The questions assume significance as petitions against *nikah halala* and *muta* have been filed in the Supreme Court by several Muslim women.

The Board members voiced their opposition to *nikah halala* the way it is often practised in the country, calling it "a mockery of religion", according to a member of the delegation who did not wish to be named.

The AIMPLB delegation also felt that the commission was making "an issue out of a non-issue" with regard to *muta*. "It is not practised in our country. An attempt is being made to turn a rare instance into a popular practice," the delegation member said.

On the minimum age for marriage being raised to 21 years by the government, the Board reiterated that the Muslim community had been following the law on the subject.

Respond or will write to President, Punjab Governor warns CM

I will send report to President about 'failure of constitutional mechanism' under Article 356, Purohit tells Mann; he warns of criminal proceedings

The Hindu Bureau
CHANDIGARH

> In spite of these letters, you have still not given the information sought by me. It appears that you are deliberately refusing to give the information
>
> **BANWARILAL PUROHIT**
> Punjab Governor

Amid an ongoing face-off, Punjab Governor Banwarilal Purohit on Friday shot off a letter to Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann asking him to reply to his queries, failing which he would send a report to the President about "failure of constitutional mechanism" in the State under Article 356 (President's Rule).

Setting the stage for a major showdown, the Governor also warned of initiating criminal proceedings under Section 124 (assaulting President, Governor with intent to compel or restrain the exercise of any lawful power) of the Indian Penal Code.

Mr. Purohit said he had received reports from various agencies regarding rampant drug abuse in Punjab.

In a letter to the Chief Minister, the Governor wrote, "I am once again constrained to write to you in connection with my correspondence dated 1st August, 2023. In spite of these letters, you have still not given the information sought by me. It appears that you are deliberately refusing to give the information."

"I regret to note here that in spite of the clear provisions of Article 167 of the Constitution of India which makes it mandatory for the Chief Minister to furnish all such information relating to the administration of affairs of the State as the Governor may call for, you have failed to supply the information sought by me," he added.

Pointing out that he had received reports regarding rampant availability and abuse of drugs in Punjab, the Governor wrote that in a new trend, drugs were being "sold in government-controlled liquor vends". He also pointed to the Narcotics Control Bureau and the Chandigarh Police sealing "66 liquor vends in Ludhiana" for selling drugs.

"A recent report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee said that one in five [persons] are exposed or addicted to drugs in Punjab. These facts point out to the breaking down of the law and order system in Punjab so much so that villagers have started protest on the streets in large numbers and decided to set up their own village defence committees to protect themselves from drugs. Please send a report concerning the action taken by you in the matter of these drugs to my office immediately."

"Before I take final decision regarding sending a report to the President of India under Article 356 about the failure of the constitutional mechanism and take a decision about initiating criminal proceedings under Section 124 of the IPC, I ask you to send me the requisite information sought for in my letters referred to above, as also in the matter of the steps taken by you concerning the problem of drugs in the State, failing which I would have no choice but to take action according to law and the Constitution," he added.

SC declines to stay premature release of U.P. ex-Minister, wife

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday declined to stay the release of former Uttar Pradesh Minister Amarmani Tripathi and his wife Madhumani Tripathi, who are both serving life terms for the murder of poet Madhumita Shukla.

The Uttar Pradesh Prisons Department had on Thursday issued an order for the premature release of the Tripathis, citing the State's 2018 policy on remission, since the couple have completed 16 years of imprisonment.

A Bench of Justices Aniuddha Bose and Bela M. Trivedi issued notices to the State government, Tripathi and his wife, while seeking their replies within eight weeks on a plea filed by the poet's sister, Nidhi Shukla.

The Prisons Department cited that the couple were in their sixties as a reason for their premature release.

Tripathi and his wife are currently admitted to the B.R.D. Medical College in Gorakhpur.

Poet shot dead

Shukla, who was pregnant at the time, was shot dead on May 9, 2003, at Paper Mill Colony in Lucknow. The case was probed by the Central Bureau of Investigation and a Dehradun court sentenced both the Tripathis to life imprisonment for the murder in October 2007. The Nainital High Court and the Supreme Court later upheld the couple's sentence.

Tripathi, who was elected from the Nautanva constituency, was a Minister in the BJP State government in 2001.

'Reply to plea on quota for transgender persons'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday asked the Centre, the States and the Union Territories to respond on a petition seeking reservation for transgender persons in education and employment.

A Bench headed by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud issued notice on the plea that asserted that transgender persons were entitled to reservation under Article 16 (equality of opportunity in matters of public employment) of the Constitution. The plea was filed by Subi, a transgender person from Kerala, represented by advocates Kaleeswaram Raj and Thulasi K. Raj.

Home Minister asks Meitei group to begin talks with Kuki leaders

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah met members of the Coordinating Committee on Manipur Integrity (COCOMI), an influential Meitei civil society group, on Friday and urged them to initiate dialogue with responsible Kuki leaders for "peace-building", the outfit said.

Meanwhile, 10 MLAs from the Kuki-Zo-Hmar communities in Manipur said on Friday that they had not been in touch with Chief Minister N. Biren Singh since violence erupted in the State on May 3.

One of them, Textiles and Commerce Minister Nemcha Kipgen wrote to the Manipur Speaker that she had been advised by security professionals to refrain from attending the Assembly session on August 29 due to the "volatile law and order situation in Imphal".

Khuarijam Athouba, a COCOMI functionary, told *The Hindu* that no final decision had been taken regarding Mr. Shah's suggestion, adding that they would engage only with "legitimate Kuki leaders" after consulting their people in Manipur.

"The Home Minister made an appeal in today's meeting but several Kuki civil society groups have emerged since the violence began, we will not engage with people who crossed over from Myanmar," Mr. Athouba said.

The Assam Rifles (AR), the oldest paramilitary force deployed in Manipur, registered a criminal case against the COCOMI on July 10 after the outfit gave a call to people "not to surrender weapons".

More than 4,000 weapons have been looted from police armouries since May 3.

The Meitei group has demanded removal of the Assam Rifles from Manipur, accusing it of partisan conduct.

The group held subsequent discussion with Tapan Kumar Deka, Director, Intelligence Bureau, and A.K. Mishra, Security Adviser, northeast.

The Kuki-Zo MLAs, including those from the BJP, said the Chief Minister's claim of communicating with them might be a "ploy to sow seeds of mistrust and disunity" between the MLAs and people.

On August 24, Mr. Singh said in an interview to *The Hindu* that he was in touch with the MLAs from the tribal Kuki-Zo community and would provide adequate security to them to attend the Assembly session. "The [Kuki] MLAs and Ministers, we are old friends, I am talking to them, I told them we cannot be separated. We have been together all these years and will be together in future as well. Only the illegal migrants cannot be accommodated," Mr. Singh had said.

The MLAs said they would not attend the Assembly session as they feared for their lives. "Of late, the Imphal valley had become a 'Valley of Death' for the Kuki-Zomi-Hmar people. The streets and roads of Imphal and its surrounding valley are dangerous... even paramilitary personnel on duty are not spared, they were checked and verified by the so-called Meira Paibis. Our official quarters and private residences are either looted, attacked or burned by mobs," the 10 MLAs said in a statement.

'Nod for game-changer jet engine technology transfer expected soon'

Ahead of President Joe Biden's visit to Delhi, U.S. Ambassador speaks on trade ties between the two countries, extradition of 26/11 accused Rana, G-20 summit language on Ukraine, and China issues

INTERVIEW

Eric Garcetti

Suhasini Haidar

U.S. Congressional approval for the GE-HAL jet engine deal involving the first-ever such technology transfer between India and the U.S. is expected to come through in days, U.S. Ambassador Eric Garcetti said, suggesting that trade ties could make similar strides if India brings down its tariffs and has more "predictable regulations". Ahead of U.S. President Joseph Biden's visit to Delhi for the G-20 summit, Mr. Garcetti said the U.S. would like to help, but would not "compromise" on the language on Ukraine in order to forge a joint declaration. Edited excerpts:

Two months since Prime Minister Narendra Modi and U.S. President Joseph Biden announced the technology partnership and the GE-HAL jet engine deal involving technology transfer, what progress has there been in clearing it through the U.S. Congress?

We have a legal notification that will end on [August] 27. So by the time we're at work on Monday, the notification and any chance [for U.S. Congress members] to object will be over. We haven't seen a single whisper of an objection. And I fully anticipate that we'll move forward and after that it is between the two companies. But this exquisite technology, which has never been shared before, 100% of what we control will be shared with India, will be a game changer.

Prime Minister Modi had also discussed trade issues – there has been no movement on India's demand for restoration of its GSP status. In the remainder of his term, will President Biden push this through Congress?

We need to get past fighting old battles and declaring victories just because we lose tariffs or get preferential treatment back... I certainly would love to see [the U.S.] Congress move GSP back in for India. But let's not stop there... We need to make sure that this is a relationship without limits, that we bring barriers down, and that we make regulations predictable and clear for the next decade if we're going to succeed.

What is your reaction to India's decision to levy new taxes on laptops and computers then?

We don't read [the move] initially as hostile, we read it as something that may achieve a goal we both share. But we do think that trade is best and investment is more likely to happen when there are fewer barriers. And when there's dependable, predictable regulation. So we're in a stage of listening, understanding and gauging, certainly giving the feedback of some of our companies that have concerns.

On the subject of counterterrorism cooperation, a U.S. court has stayed the extradition of 26/11 accused Tahawwur Rana – if he is extradited, has the U.S. placed conditions on how India can charge him or restrict capital punishment?

No, our extradition doesn't have those limitations. This is the final appeal, where his lawyers will give their arguments in October.

Our government will respond in November. But we're crystal clear that he needs to pay the price [for his involvement] and extradition should occur... and it's up the judges on the timeline for that.

Prime Minister Modi and President Xi agreed to disengage and de-escalate tensions at the Line of Actual Control. How do you see this development ?

India is our friend, and we would like to help in any way they need at the border. We certainly support that borders should be respected. We also want to see all tensions de-escalate, whether it's there on the Line of Control, or in the Taiwan Straits. We want a peaceful world and we need to be engaged with China, both of us. But we also share principles, in this case, sovereignty for India.

Is President Biden prepared to do the heavy lifting required, and, if necessary, compromise on some of the language on Ukraine in order to forge a joint declaration of the G-20 when he comes to Delhi next month?

I think besides a couple of countries [Russia and China], all the G-20 nations believe very strongly that there are certain things you don't compromise; that wars of aggression must be condemned, and that sovereignty and borders matter.

Are you disappointed India hasn't publicly changed its position on Ukraine?

We've been very pleased with the engagement with India, whether it was [PM Modi] meeting with President Zelenskyy in Hiroshima or NSA Doval attending the meeting on Ukraine in Saudi Arabia. We know that India can and will play a positive role and shares the desire for peace as soon as possible.
(Full interview at https://bit.ly/Garcetti)

Why did Chandrayaan-3 land on the near side of the moon?

EXPLAINER

Jacob Koshy

The controlled descent of the Vikram lander of Chandrayaan-3 made it one of the closest approaches of a lunar mission to the moon's South Pole. However like most of the lunar-landing missions before, Vikram too landed on the near side, making the Chinese Chang'e 4 mission the only one to have landed on the far side.

What are the moon's 'near' and 'far sides' and is there a 'dark' side?

The near side refers to the portion of the moon – about 60% – that is visible to us. It is always the same side that is visible from Earth because the moon takes the same time to rotate about its axis as it does to circle around the Earth. However this doesn't imply that the half the moon is in perpetual darkness.

The 'new moon' or when the moon is invisible from Earth is the time when the other 'far side' of the moon is bathed in sunlight and continues to receive light for nearly a fortnight. The 'dark side' is thus dark only in the sense that it was mysterious and its various topographical features hidden until the Soviet spacecraft Luna 3 in 1959 photographed it and the Soviet Academy of Sciences released an atlas of these images. Astronauts aboard the Apollo 8 mission of 1968 were the first humans to see the far side of the moon.

Is the dark side very different from the near side?

The major difference between the two sides is that the near side is relatively smoother and has many more 'maria' or large volcanic plains compared to the far side. On the far side however, there are huge craters, thousands of kilometres wide, which have likely resulted from collisions with asteroids. While both sides of the moon in its formative phase were similarly bombarded, the crust on the near side is thinner because of which, over millions of years, the volcanic lava in the lunar crust has flowed more extensively into the thinner side and filled up its craters. The resulting plains that have thus formed are far more conducive to space missions because they provide a relatively flat terrain for landers and rovers. Chandrayaan-3 identified an area 2.4 km wide and 4.8 km long that had spots of 150 m spaces that would be conducive to a safe descent. China's Chang é-4 lander remains the only one to have successfully landed on the far side. This vehicle landed on the Von Karman crater situated within a larger 2,500 km wide crater called the South Pole Aitken basin.

Plains on the near side are more conducive to space missions because they have flat terrain

What's special about the Chandrayaan-3's landing?

The Chandrayaan-3 mission, while still on the near side, has managed to land Vikram the closest ever to the lunar South Pole. The coordinates of Chandrayaan-3 at 69.36 S and 32.34 E make it about 600 km away from the South Pole. The choice of being as close as possible to the South Pole was to get closer to a "permanently shadowed region" or where no sunlight ever reaches, A.S. Kiran Kumar, former Chairman, Indian Space Research Organisation, told *The Hindu*. This would mean increasing the chances of encountering frozen water-ice along with several "interesting deposits" that can reveal more about the moon and its harvestable resources. The Vikram lander "wasn't exactly in a shadowed region" as it was necessary to shine sunlight on the lander and rover to charge their solar batteries to keep them powered. The mission's guiding purpose was to execute a successful controlled or 'soft landing' and the chances of doing that best while being near the South Pole were best served by keeping it in the near side, said Mr. Kumar. Crucially, landing on the far side would have meant no direct, line-of-sight communication with the Earth, necessary for regular near-real-time updates. "In such a situation you will need a relay – something that will communicate with the rover and then transmit to the Earth (and vice versa). While the Chandrayaan-2 orbiter (from the 2019 mission) is still functional you would have to reorient its orbit to function as a relay. This would not only mean moving it further away from the moon in a different elliptical orbit but also delays of up to half a day in transmitting and receiving information. It's always the objectives of the mission that determine the choice of landing locations," he added.

India and Greece pledge to upgrade ties to become strategic partners

The two countries are set to conclude an agreement on migration mobility; both sides will promote cultural and academic exchanges between educational institutions and increase people-to-people contacts besides boosting defence links

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

India and Greece on Friday agreed to upgrade bilateral ties to the level of strategic partnership.

Announcing the decision in Athens, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the two countries will collaborate in the field of defence and will soon conclude an agreement on migration mobility to smoothen movement of skilled population of both sides.

Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis in his comments expressed commitment to freedom of navigation and said there are "concerns" in this regard in both the Eastern Mediterranean and the Indo-Pacific regions.

Narendra Modi is presented with the Grand Cross of the Order of Honour by President of Greece Katerina Sakellaropoulou. ANI

Mr. Modi said that both sides have agreed to boost defence industries and military links. He also added that they will promote cultural and academic exchanges between educational institutions and increase people-to-people contacts.

Mr. Mitsotakis recalled that the last Indian Prime Minister to visit Greece was Indira Gandhi who toured Athens in 1983.

He spoke of India-Greece ties from the days of Alexander the Great to the contemporary times and sought investment from Indian entities.

"We agreed that we are fully committed to the objective of maintaining maritime security, to our commitment to International Law and to the Convention on the Law of the Sea – a critical issue given the common knowledge that concerns both the Eastern Mediterranean and the Indo-Pacific Ocean," said Mr. Mitsotakis.

PM receives top honour

ATHENS

The Prime Minister Narendra Modi was conferred with the 'The Grand Cross of the Order of Honour' by the Greek President Katerina Sakellaropoulou. After receiving the award, Mr. Modi thanked the Greek government and the people for the honour.

Vladimir Putin to skip G-20 summit in New Delhi

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Russian President Vladimir Putin will not participate in the G-20 leaders' summit to be held here during September 9-10, the Press Secretary to the Russian President Dmitry Peskov has informed the Russian media.

Friday's announcement is in line with other recent international summits held after the beginning of the Ukraine crisis in February 2022, where Mr. Putin has remained absent.

He was earlier expected to travel to Turkey at the invitation of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and the latest announcement has cast a shadow on this expected visit as well.

Vladimir Putin

"Putin is not planning a trip to the G-20 summit in India, which will be held in September. The main emphasis now is the special military operation [in Ukraine]," Mr. Peskov said.

Mr. Putin did not attend last year's G-20 summit in Bali and similarly stayed away from the 15th BRICS summit that concluded in Johannesburg on Thursday.

In both Bali and Johannesburg, Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov led the Russian delegation.

Several leaders have already announced that they will travel to India for the G-20 summit. The White House has announced that President Joe Biden will be in Delhi during September 7-10. Prime Minister Anthony Albanese of Australia has also announced his travel plans for India.

Earlier, the cancellation of the physical summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) under the Indian chairship had pre-empted a possible visit by Mr. Putin to India.

The Ministry of External Affairs has not responded to Mr. Peskov's remarks so far.

Tehran and New Delhi drop foreign arbitration clause in Chabahar port issue

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

In a move aimed at boosting India-Iran commercial relations, Tehran and New Delhi have agreed to drop the clause for arbitration in foreign courts concerning the Chabahar port, which had been a hurdle for the framing of a long-term agreement around the facility, the *Iran Daily* has reported. This major development also coincided with the decision of the BRICS grouping to admit Iran along with five other countries.

"We have agreed that disputes at Chabahar will not go for commercial arbitration in foreign courts but take investment arbitration or any other mode of dispute settlement. This would prevent Iran from having to amend its Constitution," a source told the *Iran Daily* in Tehran. Both sides have agreed to pursue arbitration under rules framed by the UN Commission on International Trade Law which is favoured by India over other international trade arbitration mechanisms.

The Chabahar issue had featured prominently during a telephonic conversation between Iran's president Ebrahim Raisi and Prime Minister Narendra Modi. According to the Ministry of External Affairs, "The two leaders reiterated their commitment to further strengthen bilateral cooperation including to realise the full potential of Chabahar Port as a connectivity hub." Mr. Raisi met Mr. Modi in Johannesburg on Thursday on the sidelines of the 15th BRICS summit when the two sides expressed commitment to boost ties.

'Greater predictability'

A longer-term term agreement will ensure greater predictability and boost the confidence of stakeholders in the feasibility of the facility which is located in southeastern coast of Iran.

The move is being interpreted as a step by India to stay ahead of China which has been showing interest in Iranian ports and infrastructure projects. The resolution of the issue will also help sanctions-hit Russia which has been eager to reach the Indian Ocean region through the 13-nation International North South Transport Corridor which passes through Chabahar.

Power Swapping (Banking) Tender Notification
Tender No:APPCC/Banking/23-24/ET/01, Dt:24.08.2023
APDISCOMs invites Supply of Power to APDISCOMs in Energy Banking Arrangement (Swapping) mode up to 500MW RTC/SLOT wise Power on firm basis for the banking period from 01.01.2024 to 30.09.2024 by Utility/Trader. The tender document is available in the following links https://apcpdcl.in/tenders.html & https://apps.aptransco.co.in/tenders/tender.aspx.
Ph:0866-2956677 & Email:cgm-rac@apcpdcl.in.
Sd/- Chief General Manager/ RAC
APCPDCL, Andhra Pradesh.

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER
PHED REGION I JODHPUR
Tele-0291-2651750 E-Mail : rj_acejo@nic.in
No.ACE/Region I/Ju/Ar. Distt./ 2023-24/4202-4210 Dated 08/08/2023
Short Term Notice Inviting Bid
Bids for work of "REORGANIZATION OF PIPED WATER SUPPLY SCHEME OF DHANDHIYA, DEOPURA, KISHANA PURA, RENDARI AND VISHAWAS TEHSIL LUNI DISTRICT JODHPUR UNDER JJM"
"REORGANIZATION OF PIPED WATER SUPPLY SCHEME OF KARNIYALI AND CHAINPURA BHATAN TEHSIL LUNI DISTRICT JODHPUR UNDER JJM", "REORGANISATION OF PIPED WATER SUPPLY SCHEME OF DHUNDHARA, LAKAR THUMB, RAMGARH, SANT DEVARAM NAGAR & SANT LIKHMA RAM NAGAR TEHSIL LUNI DISTRICT JODHPUR UNDER JJM", "AUGMENTATION OF RURAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME SATLANA TEHSIL LUNI DISTRICT JODHPUR UNDER JJM" and "AUGMENTATION OF RURAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME SHIKARPURA TEHSIL LUNI DISTRICT JODHPUR UNDER JJM" are invited from interested bidders upto 6.00 pm (time) 25.08.2023 (date). Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal. (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state: and PHED department website.
UBN No- PHE2324WLOB06066 UBN No- PHE2324WLOB06067
UBN No- PHE2324WLOB06068 UBN No- PHE2324WLOB06069
UBN No- PHE2324WLOB06070
(Dinesh Kumar Nagori)
ADDL. CHIEF ENGINEER
DIPR/C/12119 PHED REGION (I) JODHPUR

TENDER NOTICE
Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvarur invites the Tender for
1. Creation of Aluminium Partitioning works for Department of Geography in Academic building-III, Department of Biotechnology in CLC-II building, Department of Computer Science, Department of Education in NLBS-II building and Department of History in NLBS-I building at, CUTN.
2. Construction of Proposed incinerator room at Academic Campus, CUTN.

Tender Ref. No.	Last date & Time
1. CUTNCVL20232405	1) 05.09.2023 upto 03.00 P.M
2. CUTNCVL20232406	2) 05.09.2023 upto 03.00 P.M

Note: For more details please see the CUTN website www.cutn.ac.in and CPP portal

National Institute of Technical Teachers' Training and Research
(An Autonomous institution under the Ministry of Education, Government of India)
Shanti Marg, Shamla Hills, Bhopal -462 002
Website: www.nitttrbpl.ac.in
Advertisement of submit Proposal in Centre for Experiential Learning (CEL) for teaching aid Development
The Centre for Experiential Learning (CEL) has been established with a vision of innovating and teaching interdisciplinary skills through transformative experiential learning where all teaching faculties and instructors from technical institutions will be given opportunities to collaborate with us to develop/improve teaching aids for effective learning of various scientific and technical topics. These developed modules can be used for experiential learning by the host and other institutions and even trademarked/patented by inventors with NITTTR.
We are inviting proposals from innovative and engaging resource persons/teachers having an idea for the development of teaching aids (model/prototype) to improve the learning experience in classrooms. NITTTR will provide all necessary components and equipment support for all such development once proposal is accepted. Please visit our website **www.nitttrbpl.ac.in** for more information on the submission requirements and evaluation criteria.
DIRECTOR

Office of the Superintending Engineer Water Resources Construction Circle Dungarpur
E-gmail - sedungarpur.wr@rajasthan.gov.in
No. Acc./2023/608 Date :- 14.08.2023
Short Term E-NIT No. 05/2023-24
Bids for the works mentioned below are invited from interested bidders upto dated 25.08.2023 till 6.00 PM.

S. No.	Name of Work
1	2
1	Repair and Renovation of Dam and Canal of Kankrisol ka Naka and Balari ka Naka MIP G.P. Gandhwa Tehsil Simalwara District Dungarpur Rs. 34547359.00 UBN NO.
2	Repair and Renovation of RMC ch 246 to 312 and Minors of Mewara MIP GP Rampur Mewara Tehsil Gamari ahada District Dungarpur Rs. 35773640.00 UBN NO.

Other particulars of bid may be visited on the Procurement portal http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in, www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in & www.water.rajasthan.gov.in
NIB:- WRD2324A0344
UBN:- WRD2324WSOB00968
UBN :- WRD2324WSOB00969
DIPR/C/12308
Superintending Engineer
Water Resources Construction Circle
Dungarpur

SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM LIMITED
CIN U75302KL2017SGC05027
E-TENDER NOTICE
E-Tenders are invited for the following project of Smart City Thiruvananthapuram Limited

Sl. No.	Name of Project	E-Tender ID	PAC Amount (Exclusive Of GST)	Bid Submission Last Date
1	Selection of Contractor for Execution of Electrical, Fire and HVAC works at ICCC Building, Thiruvananthapuram Municipal Corporation.	2023_SCTLT_598529_1	Rs.1,74,44,174/-	07-Sept-2023

Date and Time of Opening Price Bid: To Be Intimated Separately to Technically Qualified Bidders by e- mail.
All the RFP documents and details are available on the e-Procurement Website. Bids are only accepted online on the Website https://etenders.kerala.gov.in
(Sd/-) CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM Ltd.

कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम
(श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
E S I C EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE CORPORATION (Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India)
कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम अस्पताल, पीन्या सं. 11-55-1, प्लॉट सं.1, 5वां मेन रोड (एफ.टी.आई. कैंपस) यशवंतपुर उपनगर, यशवंतपुर, पो-ऑ. बैंगलुरू. 560 022
ESIC Hospital Peenya, 55-1-11, Plot No.1, 5th Main Road (FTI Campus), Survey N. 11, Yeshwanthapur, Bengaluru-560022
Ph.No. 080-29723468, E-mail: ms-peenya.ka@esic.nic.in
सं.492-W/17/13/1/ARM/2022-PMD दिनांक/Date: 25.08.2023
निविदा सूचना / TENDER NOTICE
ईएसआईसी अस्पताल, पीन्या, बैंगलुरू। / ESIC HOSPITAL , PEENYA, BENGALURU.
चिकित्सा अधीक्षक, क रा बी नि अस्पताल, पीन्या, बैंगलोर "अस्पताल भवन की व्यापक वार्षिक मरम्मत और रखरखाव, उपकरणों और संयंत्रों / इलेक्ट्रिक प्रतिष्ठानों जैसे डीजी सेट / एसटीपी / ईटीपी, एचवीएसी चिलर्स प्लांट, लिफ्ट, आरओ प्लांट इत्यादि के संचालन / रखरखाव" कार्य के लिए केंद्रीय / राज्य पीडब्ल्यूडी / पीएसयू से ई–निविदा (दो बोली प्रणाली) निविदा आमंत्रित करते हैं। निविदा का विवरण https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app , www.esic.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है। / The Medical Superintendent, ESIC Hospital, Peenya, Bangalore invites e-tender (two bid system) from the Central/State PWDs/PSUs for the work "Comprehensive Annual Repair and Maintenance of Hospital Building, Operation/Maintenance of Equipment's and plants/Electric installations/DG sets/STP/ETP, HVAC Chillers Plants, lifts, RO Plants etc. and other service in the ESIC Hospital, Peenya Bangalore along with provision of Special Repair Work as and when required basis through the Central Public Procurement Portal. The details of the tender is available at https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app, www.esic.gov.in.
चिकित्सा अधीक्षक / Medical Superintendent

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION CHHATRAPATI SAMBHAJINAGAR
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (Building & Garden)
Tel.No (0240) 2333536-40
Fax.No.(0240)-2331213
Address: Municipal Corporation Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar, Executive Engineer (Building & Garden)
Head office: Town Hall Pin 431001
E-Tender Call AMC (For Help):
Cell No. 9764999592
No/AMC/DyEng/Drg&B/253/2023 Date : 25/08/2023

Sr.No	Work Name	Last Date of Tender Submission
1	CONSTRUCTION OF RETAINING WALL, COMPOUND WALL, WATCHMEN'S ROOM AND WATER TANK AT CSMC SCHOOL NAREGAON (TENDER AMT. RS. 1,81,76,834/-)	21/09/2023

Note :- 1. For the above started work is available on web site www.mahatenders.gov.in
जा क्र/मनपा/उपअभि/जनि/ इमा/२५३/२०२३
दि. २५/०८/२०२३
Sd/-
Executive Engineer
(Building & Garden)
Municipal Corporation
Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar

COCHIN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT LTD.
TENDER NOTICE
CIAL/CIVIL/615 & 616 26.08.2023
Sealed tenders are invited from experienced agencies for the below mentioned works at Cochin International Airport.

Sl No.	Name of Work	Estimated Amount (Rs.)	EMD (Rs.)	Period of Contract
1.	Setting-up of last minute duty-free shop	26.11 Lakhs	50,000/-	45 days
2.	Construction of GSE building and associated facilities. SH., Civil & plumbing works	11.70 Crores	15,00,000/-	06 months

For more details visit our website www.cial.aero.
Sd/- MANAGING DIRECTOR

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
BUILDINGS (C&M) CIRCLE, CHEPAUK, CHENNAI-5
e-TENDER NOTICE No.22 BCM/2023-24/DATED: 22.08.2023.
FORM OF CONTRACT: LUMPSUM /Two Cover System
For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, e-tenders are invited from the eligible registered contractors by the Superintending Engineer, PWD., Buildings (C & M) Circle, Chepauk, Chennai- 5 for the following work:-

Sl No.	Name of Work and EMD	Approximate Value of work	Period	Eligible Class
1.	**Two Cover System :** Construction of Combined Court building with Ground + 3 floors to accommodate 6 Court Halls and Bar Association at Panchetty in Ponneri Taluk in Tiruvallur District. **E.M.D :Rs.21,88,000/-**	Rs. 4356.00 Lakhs	18 Months	Class IA

1. For Tender documents, **visit https://tntenders.gov.in**
2. Last Date and Time for submission of tender documents : **04.10.2023 upto 03.00 P.M.**
3. Date and Time of opening of the e-tender : **04.10.2023 at 04.00 P.M.**

DIPR/4727/TENDER/2023
Superintending Engineer, PWD., (FAC)
Buildings (C & M) circle, Chepauk, Chennai-5

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY
e-TENDER CALL NOTICE
No.EM/PED-28/2023
No.EM/PED/TECH-25/2022/327
Date : 21/08/2023
Name of the work : "Design, Engineering, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Shore to Ship Power Supply Facility at Coal Berth-I and Coal Berth-II at Paradip Port Authority on Turnkey basis. Estimated Cost : Rs.12,83,38,000/-. Last Date & time of submission of bid : dt.17/09/2023 up to 17:00 Hrs. Refer our website for details : https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.
Executive Engineer (E), (PED - I)
PPA/PR/42/2023-24, Dt.25/08/23

DELHI JAL BOARD; GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (E&M)I, CHANDRAWAL WATER WORKS NO.I, CIVIL LINES, DELHI-110054 EMAIL ID:-eeenm1chwtp@gmail.com
"STOP CORONA; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"
PRESS NIT No- 05(2023-24)

NIT No.	Name of work	Estimate Cost	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Date of release of Tender in e-procurement solution	Last date /Time receipt of Tender through e-procurement solution
5	Operation & maintenance of 04 nos. Water softener Plants installed at NDMC area for the period of one year	Item Rate	213600/-	Tender Id: 2023_DJB_246603_1 Publish Date 24-Aug-2023 04:40 PM onward	04-Sep-2023 up to 12:15 PM

NIT along with all terms & conditions is available on DJB website https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in
ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) (Kuldeep Yadav)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 102(2023-24) Executive Engineer(E&M)-I

INBRIEF

SC rejects Kejriwal's plea in PM degree defamation case

The Supreme Court on Friday refused to entertain Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's plea against a High Court order rejecting his request to stay the criminal defamation proceedings filed by the Gujarat University over his remarks about Prime Minister Narendra Modi's educational qualifications. Gujarat University Registrar Piyush Patel had filed a defamation case against Mr. Kejriwal and AAP leader Sanjay Singh over their alleged comments about Mr. Modi's degrees to them under the RTI Act. A Bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and S.V.N. Bhatti said it was not issuing notice on the plea as the matter was pending before the Gujarat High Court and was listed for hearing on August 29.

Over 50 stranded people rescued in Himachal Pradesh

Over 50 people were stranded in Mandi district of Himachal Pradesh following a cloudburst and have been rescued by the NDRF, officials said on Friday. The cloudburst took place in Shehnu Gouni village on Thursday and also triggered a landslide that blocked roads at many places. A team of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) travelled 15 km on foot to rescue the stranded people, including 15 children, and shift them to safe places, the officials said. In another rain-related incident, the Maranwala bridge in Baddi connecting industrial Baddi area and Pinjaur collapsed on Friday following heavy flow of water in Balad river due to recent rains. PTI

Centre signs ₹19,000-crore pact with HSL for five ships

The Defence Ministry on Friday signed a contract with Hindustan Shipyard Ltd., Visakhapatnam, for the acquisition of five fleet support ships (FSS) for the Indian Navy at an approximate cost of ₹19,000 crore. "It would be a major boost towards achieving the goal of self-reliance in defence manufacturing as these ships will be indigenously designed and constructed by HSL," the Ministry said. The Cabinet Committee on Security had approved the acquisition on August 16. "These ships would enhance the strategic reach and mobility of the fleet. The induction of these ships will significantly enhance the blue water capability of the Indian Navy," it said.

Mehbooba's daughter Iltija gets regular passport

Iltija Mufti, daughter of former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti, was granted a regular passport on Friday by the Regional Passport Office in Srinagar, months after she was issued a country-specific two-year passport. "I finally got a 10-year passport after a long-drawn battle that lasted 18 months. It's a huge relief but sad to see that an intelligence agency here has been given carte blanche by GOI (Government of India) to harass and punish Kashmiris by depriving them of something as basic yet a fundamental right like a passport," Ms. Mufti told *The Hindu*.

Squatters cannot claim right to public space, says top court

Centre argues that the people were given notice to vacate the land in Mathura in 21 days and that the Railways has undertaken a major project to convert the metre-gauge track to broad-gauge

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday refused to extend its interim stay order against a demolition drive on railway land at Nai Basti near Krishnajanmasthan in Mathura district of Uttar Pradesh.

A Bench of Justices Aniruddha Bose and Bela M. Trivedi said squatters cannot claim the right to squat on public land. At best, they can seek time to vacate the public land and apply for rehabilitation.

"You can have some time to vacate a public place, but not claim a right to squat there. State can consider you for any rehabilitation project. That is the law. That is what this court said in its judgment in the Olga Tellis case," Justice Bose addressed senior advocate P.C. Sen and advocate Kaushik Choudhury, appearing for petitioner, Yakub Shah.

The Centre, represented by Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, said the demolition of the encroached parts was anyway over and the petition had become infructuous.

No shelter: A boy looks for belongings amidst the debris after the houses were demolished in Mathura district. R.V. MOORTHY

In a 44-page affidavit, the Centre accused Mr. Shah of being a "meddlesome interloper" who had alleged in his public interest petition that the railway demolition drive did not follow due process.

The government said Mr. Shah had linked the eviction drive to a "disputed religious premises" in order to give the issue a "communal overtone".

The Centre said Mr. Shah used sensational assertions to produce instantaneous outrage while "deliberately and wilfully" suppressing that his property was not affected by the eviction drive undertaken by the railways under the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

Justice Bose said the court would consider imposing costs on Mr. Shah, but gave him time till Monday to file a rejoinder.

Mr. Sen said his client's property was indeed affected. He was not a squatter. The demolition drive had triggered "untold human misery". He submitted there was no proof that the disputed land belonged to the railway.

The Centre, however, said the land in question fell on the side of a "pre-Independence era metre-gauge track". It submitted that Mathura-Vrindavan was an important pilgrimage centre with high footfall. The absence of a broad-gauge track compelled pilgrims to change trains at the Mathura junction. There is an increased demand for direct trains.

"The railways had undertaken the major project of converting this independent era metre gauge to broad gauge to run high speed or express trains on the route," the affidavit said. It said the project began in June last year. The removal of 135 encroachments was ordered in December 2022. Land plans verified by Tehsildar had proved that the north central railway was the lawful owner of the encroached land.

The encroachers were given due notice under the 1971 Act to vacate the land in 21 days. The eviction proceedings had gone on from April to July 2023.

Indore best city, M.P. top State in Smart Cities contest

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Tamil Nadu is the second in State category; Chandigarh recognised as best Union Territory

Indore has been adjudged the best Smart City while Madhya Pradesh has been chosen as the top state for exemplary performance in the Smart Cities Mission.

Surat and Agra are the second and third place winners among cities, while Tamil Nadu is the second in State category followed by Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh in the India Smart Cities Award Contest (ISAC), 2022.

The award for the best Union Territory has gone to Chandigarh.

The ISAC awards for 2022, organised under the Smart Cities Mission, by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs were announced on Friday.

President Droupadi Murmu will give away the awards on September 27 at Indore in Madhya Pradesh.

This is the fourth edition of the ISAC awards. In the past, the ISAC witnessed three editions in 2018, 2019 and 2020. The 2022 edition was launched in April last year during the 'Smart Cities-Smart Urbanisation' event in Surat.

There were no awards in 2021 because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The ISAC recognises and rewards cities, projects and innovative ideas that are promoting sustainable development across the 100 smart cities, as well as stimulating inclusive, equitable, safe, healthy and collaborative cities leading to a better quality of life for all.

The ISAC 2022 award had a two-stage submission process consisting of 'Qualifying Stage', which involved overall assessment of the city's performance, and the 'Proposal Stage' which required the smart cities to submit their nominations for six award categories.

A total of 845 nominations were received for ISAC 2022 from 80 qualifying smart cities out of which 66 final winners have been identified in various categories.

Be ready to execute new criminal laws at grassroots, says Shah

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah told top police officers of the country that they should be ready to implement the new criminal laws at the grassroots level once they are passed by Parliament.

He said the three criminal codes would revamp the criminal justice system by advocating new initiatives for ushering in technology-led policing for meeting the future demands of the system.

The three new codes – Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita Bill, 2023, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita Bill, 2023, and Bharatiya Sakshya Bill, 2023, – will replace the Indian Penal Code, 1860, The Code of Criminal Procedure Act, 1898, and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, respectively. The Bills were introduced on August 11 in Parliament and have been referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs for examination.

Mr. Shah made the remark at the concluding session of the two-day National Security Strategy Conference held in Delhi.

More than 750 police officials joined the conference in physical and virtual modes.

'Amendments aim at Indianising justice system'

The Indian Penal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), and the Evidence Act will be amended to Indianise the criminal justice system, Minister of Law and Justice Arjun Ram Meghwal said on Friday. Mr. Meghwal made these comments at an event to mark the launch of the Tele-Law scheme 2.0, and the provision of free legal advice to 50 lakh people.

'Land scheme is reserved only for J&K domiciles'

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

The Jammu & Kashmir administration reserved the 'land to landless' scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin) to only domiciles of the Union Territory.

"A person shall be considered landless if he is a domicile of J&K having a separate family and doesn't have land in his own name or in the name of any of his family members or is not entitled to inherit five marlas or more land," read Friday's government order.

"The land shall be granted on lease on payment of a token amount of ₹100 per marla as a one-time premium and a nominal amount of ₹1 per marla per annum as ground rent," the order said. The lease shall be for a period of 40 years, extendable further for a period of another 40 years, subject to norms, it said.

Private medical colleges told to pay stipends as per rules

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The National Medical Commission (NMC) has asked private medical colleges to pay stipends according to the regulations or face action. An online survey conducted by the NMC found unpaid stipends, or stipend amounts lower than those offered in government colleges and stipends being taken back by the management – were the most common problems reported by MBBS interns and graduates.

"The Self-financed/Private Medical Colleges are directed to implement Regulation 13 of the PGMER, 2000. All the Self-Financed/ Private Medical Colleges are warned that NMC will take strict action for non-compliance with PGMER, 2000, regulations if any complaint is received in future," said a note issued by the NMC.

A total of 10,178 responses were received from PG students and 7,901 responses from PG students of private medical colleges.

As many as 1,228 students said stipends were taken back by management.

Analysis of responses from PG students at 213 colleges in 19 States and two Union Territories showed that 2,110 PG students of various private medical colleges across the country said they are not receiving stipends and 4,288 students said stipends are not equal to sums paid in Government Medical Colleges in that State. Also 1,228 students said stipends were taken back by management.

Modi 'lied' on Chinese incursion into India: Rahul

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

Wrapping up his week-long bike tour of Ladakh, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Friday accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of lying about China's incursion into Indian territory in Ladakh and alleged the BJP was handing over the region's land to the Adani Group.

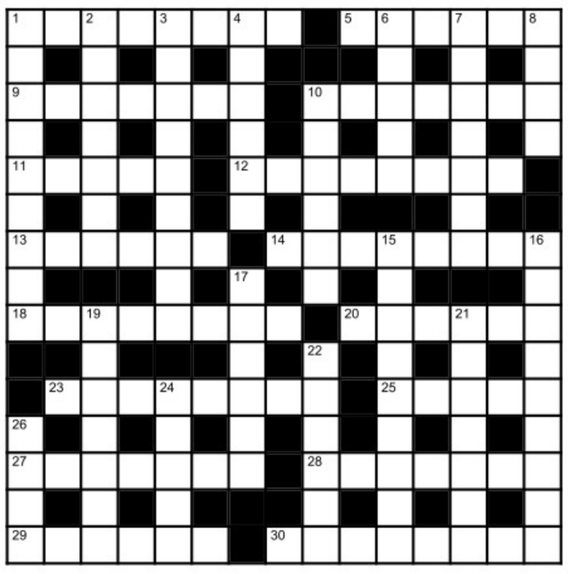
"Ladakh is a strategic place. I went to different pockets of the region on the bike. At the Pangong Tso lake, one thing was clear, China has taken away thousands of kilometres of land. Every local in Ladakh knows about it. The sad part is that the PM during the Opposition meet said not a single inch of land was taken. He was not telling us the truth," Mr. Gandhi said during his public address in Kargil. He also paid tributes to the martyrs at the Kargil War Memorial.

TH CROSSWORD + 13954

(set by Gussalufz)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Driver's blog about catching cold during flu (4,4)
5 Drink it after holding back tears (6)
9 After fifty, eccentricity besieged mum (7)
10 Composed clever engineering question as opener (7)
11 Central India's gangster on American chopper (5)
12 Spooner announcing a change in America for traitors (8)
13 Slight cushion after #6 and #8 get out (6)
14 Arm temporary accommodation with air-conditioning and opulence, essentially (8)
18 With others (14 other real odd ones out!) (2,6)
20 Chinese date in half a month! Half a month to last! (6)
23 Big guns using second-rate, recycled musical instrument? Like! (8)
25 The anal area is frequently used in these relations (5)
27 Log 13 (3-4)
28 Old toilet sucks - no joke! (4-3)
29 Sometimes proctologist revolts while undressing body (6)
30 Merlin sang songs featuring civets (8)

Down

1 Gets moved by rousing musical about pregnancy (9)
2 Post restructuring, sell oil or candies? (7)
3 "100 + 50? ...??" (High society, in short, is not very bright) (9)
4 Tune a system component that is not in a good state (6)
6 Trim, quiet, and single engineer (5)
7 Dreadful boor / jerk like Marvin? (7)
8 - 5 - h = 20? (4)
10 One who makes money disappear - nerd, by and large (6)
15 Harassments from relative described by "metallic noises" (9)
16 Post-eclipse revelations: bad omens conveying rise in disharmony (9)
17 Barbie's pal drinks arrack regularly - a monster! (6)
19 Well, supporting ChatGPT without training limits, period! (7)
21 Forget artificial neural networks, basically (7)
22 Alas, it breaks down intermittently (1,5)
24 Goes to get a sex-change under ordinary instruments (5)
26 She ultimately gets irrational about the Ramayana, perhaps (4)

SUDOKU

	5		8				7	4
7	8						6	
1			3					
					6	1	2	
				8				
	4	2	1					
					9			2
	7						5	6
6	2				5		1	

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

No.SS5900 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

S	E	R	M	O	N		A	T
W		E		L			H	
A	N	S	W	E	R		P	E
G		E		A			R	
	F	R	I	N	G	E	B	E
		V		D		L		D
P	R	E	F	E	R	E	N	C
L				R		C	R	
A	J	A	R		A	T	M	O
C		C		N		R		S
E	C	C	L	E	S	I	A	S
M		U		U		C		
A	S	S	O	R	T	E	D	
T		E		O		Y		
S	T	R	A	N	G	E	R	

T	E	S	T	E	D			
	L		A		A			
		P	E	R	A	N	N	U
		R		Y		S		A
E	B	E	N	E	F	I	T	S
	D		R		E		C	
N	C	E		A	S	H	E	
		S					N	
	A	T	M	O	S	P	H	E
		S		O		V		
S	I	A	S	T	I	C	A	L
			L		S		P	
		D		P	A	T	I	N
				G		V		N
		R		S	E	V	E	R

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

4	8	9	6	7	2	1	5	3
7	2	3	1	9	5	6	8	4
6	5	1	4	3	8	9	2	7
1	4	7	2	5	3	8	9	6
8	9	6	7	1	4	2	3	5
2	3	5	8	6	9	7	4	1
5	6	8	3	2	7	4	1	9
3	7	4	9	8	1	5	6	2
9	1	2	5	4	6	3	7	8

FAITH

5 divine names of Lakshmi

Sri Vedanta Desika has sung Sristhuthi in praise of Sri Mahalakshmi. Smt. Prabha Senesh said in a discourse that the Acharya refers to five divine names of the goddess in the eighth sloka (*Asyesana Tvamasi Jagata:*). They are Lakshmi, Padma, Jaladhi Tanaya, Vishnu Pathni and Indira.

Lakshmi refers to an identification of being the divine consort. Peyazhwar says, "*Thirukanden Ponmenikanden*" – that he has seen the Goddess first.

Vedas say 'Parabrahmam' is the Lord of Lakshmi (Lakshmipathy).

Padmam refers to the lotus. Padmapriye, Padmini, Padmahasthe, Padmalaye and Padmadalayathaakshi are the different names chanted in Srisuktham. Padmapriye – one who loves lotus. She is fond of the naval lotus of Lord Narayana.

Jaladhi Tanaya – There are seven types of oceans, viz. salt, sugarcane, milk, curd, ghee, honey and pure water. She is the daughter of a pristine water ocean.

Vishnupathni – She is the divine consort of Lord Vishnu. Indira – 'Indi' means vast wealth. Indira refers to the possessor of all such wealth.

Chanting these five names will help us get everything in our life and enable us to cross the sea of samsara.

INBRIEF

Karur Vysya Bank opens 10 new branches in the South

Karur Vysya Bank on Friday inaugurated 10 new branches in the South, including six in Tamil Nadu, two in A.P. and one each in Telangana and Karnataka. With this, the total number of branches had increased to 822, while the automated teller machine numbers rose to 1,640 units and those of cash recyclers to 611, the private sector lender said in a statement. "During the current financial year, we have inaugurated 23 branches," said MD & CEO B. Ramesh Babu.

Saraswat Cooperative Bank to sell LIC products in tie-up

Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) and Mumbai-headquartered Saraswat Cooperative Bank have entered into a partnership under which the bank will sell the insurance major's products. The partnership is part of efforts to increase penetration of life insurance through the bancassurance channel, LIC said. Saraswat Cooperative Bank, with a network comprising 294 branches across six States, caters to more than two million customers, LIC said on Friday.

Online grocery firm Zepto raises $200 mn in Series E

Zepto, an online grocery company, said it had raised $200 million in Series E fundraise, valuing the company at $1.4 billion. The round was led by StepStone Group. Additionally, Goodwater Capital, a consumer-focused venture capital firm based in California, joined the round as a new investor, Zepto said. Existing investors including Nexus Venture Partners, Glade Brook Capital and Lachy Groom also participated in the round, the company said.

G20 ministers agree to map global value chains, link MSMEs

Communique eludes Trade and Investment Ministerial Meeting as China and Russia block paragraph flagging geopolitical issues over Ukraine

Vikas Dhoot
JAIPUR

Trade and Investment Ministers of G20 nations, which together generate 75% of the world's trade flows, agreed on Friday to map global value chains, integrate small businesses with them and ease trade documentation. But a comprehensive communiqué remained elusive on the thorny issue of the war in Ukraine as China and Russia blocked a paragraph flagging geopolitical issues.

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal, speaking after the conclusion of the two-day G20 Trade and Investment Ministerial Meeting (TIMM), said the agreed outcomes were not only the "most significant" in G20 parleys so far, but also included several new elements.

'Very strong outcome'

"It's a very powerful, strong outcome document and chair summary," Mr. Goyal said. "The new elements can become a guiding principle in which we can see significant progress in international trade and growth of the world economy," he remarked, stressing that three very distinct, action-oriented outcomes were agreed upon as annexes that hold importance for India.

"The three annexes are really the juice of this agreement. In the first, we talk of a G20 generic framework for mapping global value chains... towards understanding where the problems are and what needs to be done to make our value chains more inclusive, sustainable and shock-proof," the Minister said, stressing that many value chains stood broken and needed to be revived.

"The second annexe addresses our micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs)... From Jaipur, a clarion call has gone out to the world that we will have to strengthen the ability of our MSMEs, who play a very important role in India's economy, as well as the economy of many parts of the world, particularly developing economies.

"MSMEs have a limited ability, given their small size, to have full access to information, finance and market-sensitive data points so while they can contribute much more to economies, they remain constrained in their ability to do so," Mr. Goyal noted, adding that the call for action involves upgrading existing databases and portals to provide trade-related information.

A global trade help desk, operated by the International Trade Centre, will be continuously upgraded in consultation with UNCTAD and the World Trade Organisation (WTO), so that it becomes more inclusive and provides very rich data to MSMEs, Mr. Goyal said.

The third annexe relates to principles on digitalisation of trade documents so that paper documents and impediments to seamless flow of goods and services will be curbed, he added.

Three key annexes

G20 Trade and Investment Ministers reach agreement on a host of issues with three key annexes having 'the juice' of the accord

- First annexe is about a G20 generic framework for mapping global value chains and making them more inclusive, sustainable and shockproof
- Second annexe relates to MSMEs including in other emerging economies and providing them trade-related information
- The third is about the principles on digitalisation of trade documents

Taming rising prices, a priority: Sitharaman

Reuters
NEW DELHI

Nirmala Sitharaman

India's Finance Minister said taming inflation was a priority, and that raising interest rates was not the only tool available.

"Obsession to use interest rates as the only tool to deal with inflation and not manage the supply-side factors will not give a complete solution," Nirmala Sitharaman said.

Annual retail inflation in July rose to its highest in 15 months as vegetable and cereal prices skyrocketed, putting pressure on the government to take action.

The Asian country has taken a number of steps, including raising supplies of tomatoes and onions, through its distribution network, while releasing wheat and sugar into the market to cool prices.

But food prices may stay elevated in coming months as August has been uncharacteristically arid impacting prices of cereals, vegetables, sugar, spices, meat and dairy products.

Not clear if rates are high enough: Powell

Reuters
JACKSON HOLE

The U.S. Federal Reserve may need to raise interest rates further to ensure inflation is contained, Fed Chair Jerome Powell said on Friday.

Mr. Powell said Fed policymakers would "proceed carefully as we decide whether to tighten further," but made clear that the central bank has not yet concluded that its benchmark interest rate is high enough to be sure inflation returns to the 2% target.

"It is the Fed's job to bring inflation down to our 2% goal, and we will do so," Mr. Powell said. "We have tightened policy significantly over the past year. Although inflation has moved down from its peak–a welcome development–it remains too high. We are prepared to raise rates further if appropriate, and intend to hold policy at a restrictive level until we are confident that inflation is moving sustainably down toward our objective."

In that context, recent data has raised a new concern with consumer spending "especially robust" and the housing sector possibly rebounding, he said.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	FRIDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	64,887	-0.56
US Dollar	82.65	-0.10
Gold	59,600	-0.08
Brent oil	84.18	1.17

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2495.75	-43.80
Adani Ports	806.60	-15.75
Apollo Hosp	4865.50	-54.45
Asian Paints	3259.30	33.70
Axis Bank	983.10	1.75
Bajaj Auto	4584.05	-46.10
Bajaj Finserv	1503.90	35.30
Bajaj Finance	7211.50	74.05
Bharti Airtel	873.50	4.05
BPCL	350.25	-1.00
Britannia Ind	4525.80	-17.00
Cipla	1209.40	-11.10
Coal India	227.70	-1.55
Divis Lab	3636.50	-27.75
Dr Reddys Lab	5779.25	-127.90
Eicher Motors	3341.15	-0.50
Grasim Ind	1776.25	-1.80
HCL Tech	1153.95	-17.30
HDFC Bank	1561.50	-17.80
HDFC Life	628.30	-2.20
Hero MotoCorp	2910.90	-16.85
Hindalco	450.00	-6.50
Hind Unilever	2563.55	-17.70
ICICI Bank	970.40	1.45
IndusInd Bank	1401.15	-24.00
Infosys	1420.10	-3.50
ITC	443.35	-7.55
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	214.50	1.05
JSW Steel	773.15	-14.75
Kotak Bank	1778.85	-2.10
L&T	2638.40	-49.75
LTIMindtree Ltd.	5127.40	-42.75
M&M	1520.05	-22.15
Maruti Suzuki	9505.70	-68.00
NestleIndia	22188.50	-56.40
NTPC	217.90	-2.95
ONGC	174.70	1.60
PowerGrid Corp	242.00	-4.30
Reliance Ind	2468.35	-11.45
SBI Life	1296.40	2.65
State Bank	569.95	-7.00
Sun Pharma	1106.30	-12.00
TataConsumer Product	832.55	-11.65
Tata Motors	605.10	-5.85
Tata Steel	116.90	-1.35
TCS	3381.30	-6.45
Tech Mahindra	1189.50	-9.60
Titan	3067.20	6.00
UltraTech Cement	8071.45	-139.95
UPL	583.20	-3.20
Wipro	409.70	-3.00

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on August 25

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	82.45	82.77
Euro	89.09	89.44
British Pound	104.03	104.44
Japanese Yen (100)	56.47	56.69
Chinese Yuan	11.31	11.36
Swiss Franc	93.16	93.53
Singapore Dollar	60.85	61.10
Canadian Dollar	60.71	60.97
Malaysian Ringitt	17.76	17.84
Australian Dollar	52.99	53.20

Source:Indian Bank

'Realty sector set for $5.8-tn expansion by 2047'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Knight Frank India, a real estate consultancy, in association with NAREDCO, has projected that the Indian real estate sector is expected to expand to $5.8 trillion by 2047. This estimated real estate output value will contribute 15.5% to the total economic output in 2047 from an existing share of 7.3%.

According to Knight Frank's India Real Estate Vision 2047 report, in the next 25 years, cumulatively there would be an estimated 230 million units of housing requirement in India. Residential real estate has a potential to generate an output equivalent of $3.5 trillion in 2047, it said.

Grasim eyes number two slot in decorative paints, says Birla

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Kumar Mangalam Birla

Grasim Industries Ltd., a part of the Aditya Birla Group which recently entered into the paints business, aims to be the number two player in the decorative paints industry in the country, chairman Kumar Mangalam Birla told shareholders at the company's 76th AGM here.

"Your company has embarked on a transformational growth phase with the incubation of two new high-potential growth engines – Paints and B2B e-commerce for building materials," Mr. Birla said.

"In the paints business, the project work is progressing as per plans at all the six sites and commissioning of plants will start in phases from Q4FY24," he said. "The state-of-the-art R&D facility is fully operational," he added.

"The B2B e-commerce business for building materials 'Birla Pivot', is now operational and catering to customers in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Delhi," he added.

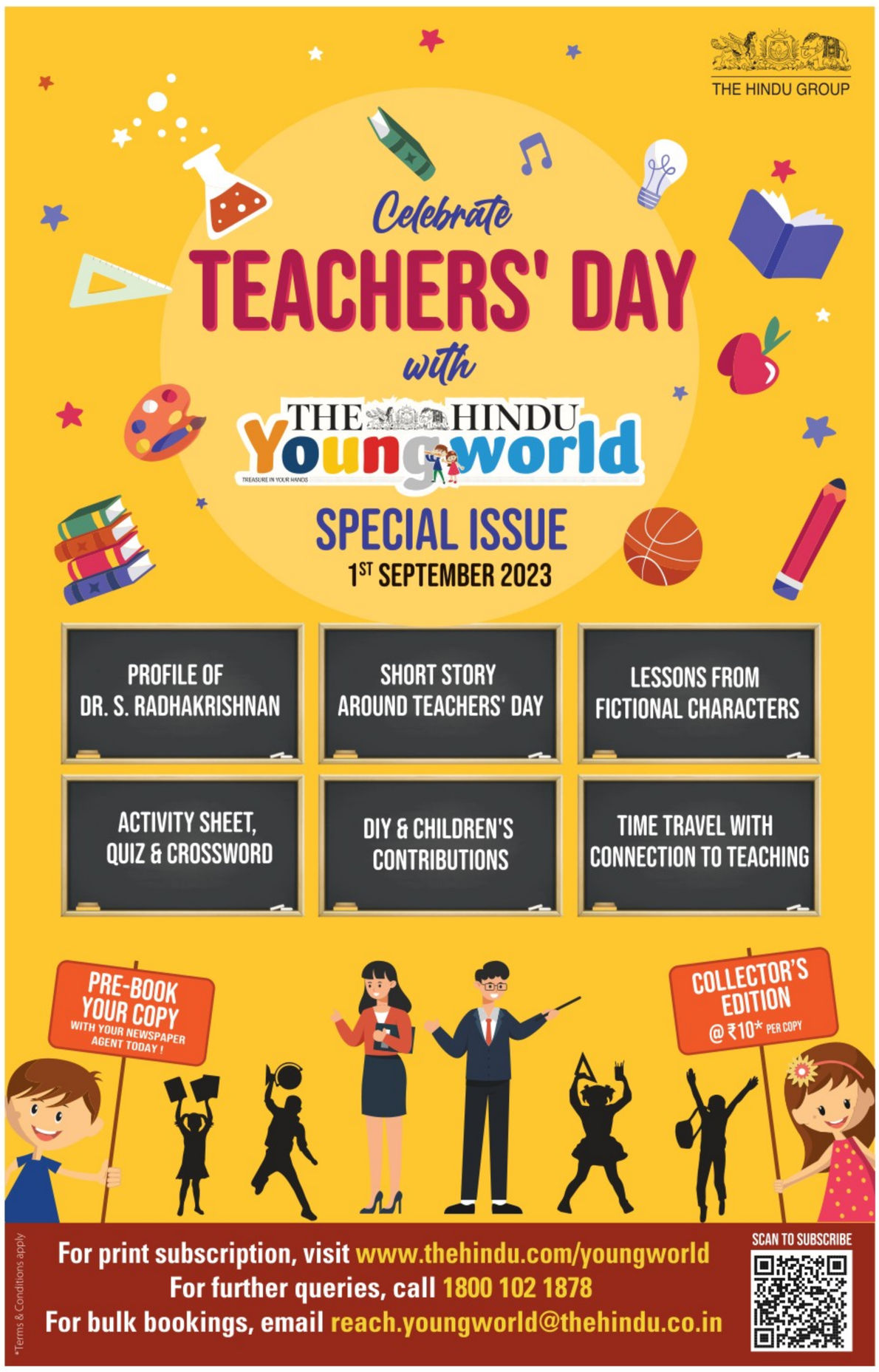
IHH Health to buy out RGE founder for ₹740 crore

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Malaysia's IHH Healthcare Bhd will acquire the remaining stake held by Dr. Ravindranath Kancherla and affiliates in hospital-chain operator Ravindranath GE Medical Associates Private Ltd. (RGE) for ₹740 crore, the company said.

IHH Healthcare has signed the pact to acquire the stake in RGE through its wholly-owned arm Gleneagles Development.

Founded by Dr Ravindranath, RGE owns Gleneagles Global Hospitals which operates six multi-super-specialty hospitals across Hyderabad, Chennai, Bengaluru and Mumbai, with a capacity of about 1,500 beds.



SEBI tells SC it is still probing 13 overseas entities' holdings in Adani Group firms

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) said its investigation into two crucial aspects raised by the Hindenburg Research report against the Adani Group continues to be in an "interim" stage.

The markets regulator said in a status report submitted to the Supreme Court that it had completed work in 22 of the 24 investigations into the allegations raised by the U.S.-based entity against the Indian conglomerate.

One of the two investigations which has so far foxed SEBI is about the 13 overseas entities (12 FPIs and one foreign entity) who were classified as public shareholders of the Adani group of companies.

SEBI said it needed more information on the economic interest shareholders of these entities in order to ascertain whether there was any non-compliance with the minimum public shareholding requirement specified in Rule 19A of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Rules, 1957.

"As many of the entities linked to these foreign investors are located in tax haven jurisdiction, establishing interest shareholders of the 12 FPIs remains a challenge. However, efforts are still being made to gather details from five foreign jurisdictions pertaining to the economic interest shareholders of the FPIs," SEBI informed the court through its report.

So far, SEBI has sent these external agencies approximately 90 communications seeking assistance.

In May, the Supreme Court-appointed Justice A.M. Sapre expert committee had flagged this very same problem in its report to the court.

The Justice Sapre panel had said SEBI had "drawn a blank" and was in a "chicken-and-egg situation" in its investigation into the "ownership" of 13 overseas entities, including 12 Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs), associated with the Adani group.

The second probe in an interim stage is about any unusual trade patterns in certain Adani entities at the time of release of the Hindenburg report.

TEL AVIV

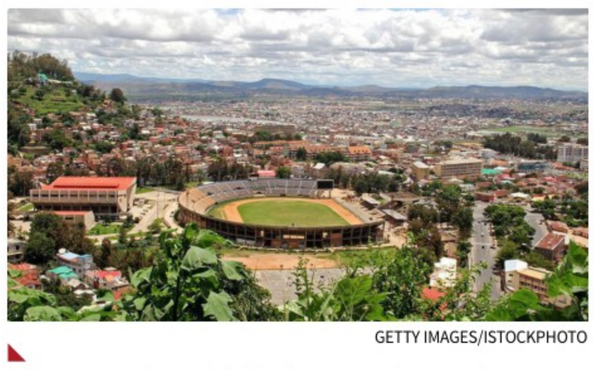
Israeli Security Minister lashes out at supermodel Bella Hadid

AFP

Israel's far-right National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir lashed out at Bella Hadid on Friday for slamming his words on Jewish settlers' right to freedom of movement outweighing that of Palestinians in West Bank. Ms. Hadid shared on Instagram, "In no place... should one life be more valuable than another's." AP

ANTANANARIVO

At least 12 dead, 80 injured in Madagascar stadium stampede



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

At least 12 people were killed Friday in a crowd stampede at a stadium in the Madagascar capital of Antananarivo, Prime Minister Christian Ntsay said. The stampede occurred at the entrance to the Barea stadium where a crowd of around 50,000 people had arrived to attend the opening event of the Indian Ocean Island Games. AFP

COPENHAGEN

Denmark govt. to bring in new legislation to ban Koran burnings

REUTERS

Denmark on Friday said it plans to ban Koran burnings after a string of desecrations of Islam's holy book in the Scandinavian nation sparked anger in Muslim countries. The government will present a Bill that will "prohibit the inappropriate treatment of objects of significant religious importance to a religious community". AFP

NIAMEY

Niger junta orders French Ambassador to leave the country

AP

The Niger junta, which seized power on July 26, ordered French Ambassador Sylvain Itte to leave the country within 48 hours, the Nigerien Foreign Ministry said in a statement on Friday. The junta had earlier in the day authorised troops from neighbouring Mali and Burkina Faso to come to its defence. REUTERS

China, Bhutan hold first meeting on 'delimitation' of disputed boundary

Officials from both sides met for four days in China and agreed to speed up a boundary resolution; in recent months, both countries have portrayed the long-running talks as picking up speed and nearing towards a possible solution

Ananth Krishnan
Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

China and Bhutan this week held the first meeting of the newly set-up joint technical team on the delimitation of their disputed boundary, as officials from both sides met for four days in China and agreed to speed up a boundary resolution.

A joint press release from Beijing and Thimphu on Thursday said the 13th Expert Group Meeting (EGM) was held in Beijing from Monday through Thursday, and described as an "important outcome" the setting up of a Joint Technical Team on the Delimitation of the China-Bhutan Boundary, which held its first meeting along the sidelines of the EGM. In recent months, both sides have portrayed the long-running talks as picking up speed and nearing towards a possible solution, which would have ramifications for India. They agreed in Beijing to hold the 14th round as soon as possible and to hold the 25th round of boundary talks to "keep the positive momentum". It did not, however, announce a date for the already much delayed 25th round of boundary talks, which have not been held since 2016.

While there was a two-year gap between the 10th round of the EGM held in April 2021 and the 11th round of the EGM held in January 2023, the last two rounds have been held in relatively quick succession.

Peaceful settlement: The boundary talks between Bhutan and China began in 1984 and have been stalled since 2016.

Experts in India have said any deal between Beijing and Thimphu that accedes to a "swap arrangement" between areas to the North (Jamparlung and Pasamlung valleys) with Doklam to the West would be of concern to India, given the proximity to India's narrow "Siliguri corridor" that connects northeastern States with the rest of India. India and China were involved in a stand-off in Doklam near the India-China-Bhutan tri-junction in 2017. In March, the Bhutanese Prime Minister said in an interview that the process of "demarcating territories" and "drawing a line" could be completed "after one or two more meetings".

Disputed areas

The boundary talks between Bhutan and China began in 1984, and the 24th round was held in 2016. The talks have largely focused on disputed areas to Bhutan's north, and to its west, abutting the Doklam plateau. However, these have been stalled since 2016, especially after the 2017 Doklam stand-off.

Thursday's statement said the two sides had talks on "continuously implementing the MOU on the Three-Step Road Map for Expediting the China-Bhutan Boundary Negotiations" and "agreed to expedite and take simultaneous steps to implement the Three-Step Road Map".

"The two sides also agreed upon keeping the positive momentum of frequent Expert Group Meetings, holding the 14th Expert Group Meeting on the China-Bhutan Boundary Issues as soon as possible and maintaining communication on holding the 25th Round of China-Bhutan Boundary Talk," it said.

Kremlin denies role in plane crash that killed Prigozhin

Agence France-Presse
MOSCOW

The Kremlin rejected on Friday rumours it had ordered the death of Wagner chief Yevgeny Prigozhin, presumed to have died in a plane crash two months after leading a mutiny in Russia.

Speculating the Kremlin may have been involved has swirled since Wednesday, when a private jet reportedly carrying Prigozhin crashed between Moscow and St. Petersburg.

The rumours have been voiced by Western countries, Kremlin critics and even suggested by some pro-Kremlin figures.

Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov described the incident as "tragic" to reporters on Friday and acknowledged public discourse around foul play and possible involvement of the authorities.

"Of course, in the West,

Yevgeny Prigozhin

this speculation is being presented from a certain angle. All of this is an absolute lie," Mr. Peskov said, urging patience and adding that ongoing probes would reveal facts around the fatal crash.

Suspicious timing

Russian officials have opened an investigation into air traffic violations but have so far not disclosed details of the probe or the incident.

President Vladimir Putin broke his silence on the crash on Thursday, offering condolences to the families of the 10 people onboard and describing the incident as a "tragedy".

He said Prigozhin, who in June led an armed mutiny against Russia's military leadership, had made some "serious mistakes in his life" and had a "complicated fate".

The short-lived but bloody unrest was seen by observers as having been the biggest threat to Mr. Putin's long rule.

For many in Russia, the fact that Prigozhin's armed march on Moscow ended in an unusual deal that involved the Kremlin allowing the rebellious warlord to go into exile in Belarus had raised eyebrows.

Many Western officials said the timing of the crash was suspicious coming two months to the day after the mutiny.

With Prigozhin's apparent demise, the fate of his private Army Wagner remained unclear.

China's allies criticise Fukushima water dump

Agence France-Presse
SUVA

China's Pacific allies – from Solomon Islands' government to Fiji's Opposition – on Friday echoed Beijing's criticism of Japan releasing wastewater from its disaster-hit Fukushima nuclear plant. More than 500 Olympic swimming pools' worth of treated wastewater will be released into the Pacific over decades in a plan endorsed by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

But China has issued a furious response, and its allies in the Pacific have backed that criticism despite safety assurances from Japan and the IAEA. Solomons' Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare – who has delayed elections and scolded Western powers while embracing Beijing's chequebook diplomacy – issued a "strong statement against Japan's decision". The water release, he said, "has an impact on our people, ocean, economy and livelihood."

Trump held in election case, mug shot out

Agence France-Presse
ATLANTA

Former U.S. President Donald Trump was arrested at a Georgia jail on Thursday on racketeering and conspiracy charges and released on a $200,000 bond after having a historic mug shot taken.

Mr. Trump, who is accused of colluding with 18 other defendants to overturn the 2020 election result in the southern state, spent less than 30 minutes inside Atlanta's Fulton County Jail before leaving in a motorcade for the airport. Like the other defendants in the case who have surrendered so far, the 77-year-old Trump had his mug shot taken during the booking process – a first for any serving or former U.S. President. In the photograph released by the sheriff's office, he scowled at the camera while dressed in a dark blue suit, white shirt and red tie.

Donald Trump

Back on X

Speaking to reporters after his arrest, Mr. Trump, the frontrunner for the 2024 Republican presidential nomination, said it was a "very sad day for America".

"What has taken place here is a travesty of justice," he said. "I did nothing wrong."

Mr. Trump posted the mug shot on his own Truth Social platform with the caption "Election Interference" and a link to his campaign website.

A short while later, he also posted it on X – formerly Twitter, which was Mr. Trump's favourite bullhorn until he was banned from it after the January 6, 2021 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol by a mob of his supporters.

New owner Elon Musk reinstated Mr. Trump on X in November of last year, but Mr. Trump stayed away and posted instead on Truth Social.

Australian, U.S., Filipino forces practice drill

Associated Press
MANILA

Australian and Filipino forces, backed by the U.S. Marines, practised retaking an island seized by hostile forces in a large military drill on Friday on the northwestern Philippine coast facing the disputed South China Sea.

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. and visiting Australian Defence Minister Richard Marles watched the mock beach landings, assaults and helicopter insertion of forces on a Philippine Navy base with 1,200 Australians, 560 Filipinos and 120 U.S. Marines participating.

On Monday, Australian, Filipino and American forces conducted air assault manoeuvres in Rizal town in western Palawan province, which also faces the South China Sea.

The three countries are among the most vocal critics of China's increasingly aggressive and confrontational actions in the disputed waters.

Sport

Air Force rides on Kerketta's hat-trick to beat Hockey Unit of Tamil Nadu

HOCKEY

K. Keerthivasan
CHENNAI

Manip Kerketta's hat-trick ensured Indian Air Force 4-3 victory over Hockey Unit of Tamil Nadu (HUTN) in a Group-B match of the 94th MCC-Murugappa Gold Cup all-India hockey here on Friday.

Earlier, Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) played a perfect all-round game to outclass Punjab National Bank (PNB), the last edition's (2019) finalist, 6-2 in another Group-B match. Hockey Karnataka held former champion Indian Railways 1-1 in a Group-A contest.

Air Force clearly appeared the better team in the first two quarters. The host showed its fighting character in the third and fourth quarters. Trailing 4-2, HUTN pulled one back through Aravind in the fourth quarter.

Leading man: Manip Kerketta of IAF celebrates after scoring against HUTN. M. VEDHAN

Attacking relentlessly and with seconds remaining for the hooter, HUTN had its last chance to equalise when it received a penalty corner. However, Air Force custodian Ponnanna produced a brilliant save by diving to his right to thwart a fierce drive by Y. Anand.

After a tame draw the other day against HUTN, CAG came with a set plan and executed it really well. No doubt, it was the much organised team throughout against a stronger opponent. From defending exceptionally well to being racy in counter-attacks, CAG rattled PNB no end.

Full credit to Karnataka for pulling off a draw against the mighty Railways. More than the forwardline, it was Karnataka's defence that proved rock-solid against a reputed set of forwards.

The results:
CAG 6 (Abharan Sudev, Manish Yadav, Parvinder Singh, Jay Prakash Patel, Veerathamizhan 2) bt PNB 2 (Bhagat Singh Dhillon 2); Indian Railways 1 (Pratap Lakra) drew with Hockey Karnataka 1 (S. V. Sunil); Indian Air Force 4 (Manip Kerketta 3, Lovedeep Singh) bt HUTN 3 (Y. Anand, S. Mareeswaran, V. Aravind).

East Bengal makes the semifinals

DURAND CUP

Amitabha Das Sharma
KOLKATA

Emami East Bengal sailed into the semifinals of the 132nd Durand Cup after prevailing over the former I-League champion Gokulam Kerala FC 2-1 in the second quarterfinal match at the Salt Lake Stadium on Friday.

Australian defender Jordan Elsey put East Bengal in the lead. Bouba Aminou, Gokulam Kerala's Cameroonian defender, first got the equaliser for his side early in the second half before scoring an own goal late in the action to seal the win for the home side.

East Bengal meets NorthEast United FC in the first semifinal on August 29. With the match played under a persistent drizzle, East Bengal adjusted better to the conditions and enjoyed the edge for the greater part of the opening half.

Joy unbound: Elsey is ecstatic after slotting in East Bengal's first goal against Gokulam Kerala. DEBASISH BHADURI

East Bengal got the start it was looking for as Elsey nodded home the lead within 40 seconds of kick-off. Jordan came at the end of a well coordinated move that started from a short corner taken by Naorem Mahesh. Borja Herrera set the ball on top of the Gokulam Kerala box for Javier Siverio to nod it ahead. Elsey did well to turn the ball into the Gokulam goal to secure the early lead.

Maintaining its command over the action, East Bengal had some more good opportunities to enhance the lead.

The best effort was from the Spanish midfielder Saul Crespo, who was unlucky to see his 32nd minute attempt coming off the crosspiece.

The Malabarians worked their way in gradually and had a good chance to equalise in the 41st minute but for the East Bengal goalkeeper Prabhsukan Singh Gill, who dived to his left to save forward Alejandro Sanchez's fine attempt.

The visitor finally got the equaliser in the 57th minute following a corner which was sent home by Aminou, who later made the costly error in the 78th minute to deflect home a Nishu Kumar cross into his own goal to see East Bengal cruising through.

The result: Emami East Bengal 2 (Jordan Elsey 1, Bouba Aminou 78-og) bt Gokulam Kerala FC 1 (Aminou 57).

DEJA VU

Djokovic says Alcaraz reminds him of his battles with Nadal

Djokovic says Alcaraz's knack of rising to the occasion in the most demanding of circumstances reminds him of his gruelling battles with Rafael Nadal. "Each point, the feeling that I have on the court reminds me a little bit when I was facing Nadal when we were at our prime of our careers You've got to basically earn every single point."

TOP SPOT

Bonmati, Carmona and Kerr shortlisted for player of year

Aitana Bonmati and Olga Carmona, and Chelsea's Australian striker Sam Kerr were on Friday named on the three-player shortlist for UEFA's women's player of the year award. Bonmati captained Spain. Carmona scored the only goal in the final against England. Kerr was Chelsea's top scorer.

FLYING HIGH

World champion Spain rises to No. 2 in FIFA rankings led by Sweden

FIFA Women's World Cup winner Spain rose to No. 2 in the FIFA rankings published on Friday, with the United States of America falling off the top spot for the first time in more than six years. Sweden, which lost to Spain in the semifinals, tops the rankings.The US dropped to No. 3, while England stayed at No. 4.

WORDS OF WISDOM

Kallis predicts Buttler to be the leading run-scorer in World Cup

Former South African all-rounder Jacques Kallis tipped England's captain Jos Buttler to be the leading run-scorer in the upcoming ICC Men's Cricket World Cup beginning on Oct. 5. In the video posted by ICC on Instagram, Kallis said, "I think Jos Buttler will be the leading run-scorer. An outside call, but I fancy him in those conditions."

Neeraj Chopra: He came, he saw, he qualified for Olympics

The javelin ace's appearance lasted just a few minutes as he sent the spear to his season's best distance of 88.77m in his very first attempt to top the qualification round; Manu and Jena also made it to the final

ATHLETICS WORLDS

Jonathan Selvaraj
BUDAPEST

One and done: Neeraj qualified for the Paris Olympics by comfortably going past the entry standard of 85.5m. GETTY IMAGES

Usain Bolt could run the 100m in about nine-and-a-half seconds. That was mighty impressive. But Neeraj Chopra can lift the mood of a nation with more than a billion people sky high just a little bit faster.

It's been six days of grinding toil for Indian athletes at the National Athletics Centre in Budapest. India's top athletes have struggled. The schedule, the level of competition, the scale of the event, the weight of expectations and a lack of mental fortitude are among the talking points.

Friday throws up an unseasonably hot Budapest morning as reigning Olympic javelin champion Neeraj steps on the field for the qualification round of the men's javelin throw. The omens aren't great. Former Olympic champion Keshorn Walcott twists his ankle in warm-up and is out of the reckoning.

Neeraj stretches, takes his groin through the range of motion. He has had trouble with the groin this season. Cue more anxiety. Before his turn in Group A of qualifying, the other 16 throwers have had their chance and no one has met the automatic qualification standard of 83m.

Finally, the 25-year-old Indian gets to his mark. He smacks his thighs, twists his body and gets on with it. About nine-and-a-half seconds later, you are left feeling a little foolish. World Championships? What's the fuss all about?

The world witnesses Neeraj, over 19 strides, build up speed, then execute a firm block to harness all that speed, then launch the javelin, control his tumble in follow through, and stop just shy of the foul line. Then, the distance pops up. It is 88.77m, a season's best.

Does it easily

With his throw in Budapest, Neeraj also qualifies for the Paris Olympics by comfortably going past the entry standard of 85.5m.

Two more Indian throwers, D.P. Manu and Kishore Jena, also made it to the World Championships final on Sunday night. Manu had a best throw of 81.31m, while Jena made the cut with 80.55m.

Neeraj is more than 5m over the automatic qualifying. Across two groups and 36 athletes, just three meet the automatic standard. Only Neeraj does it in one throw. In the mixed zone, he gives shout outs to the Chandrayaan-3 moon landing mission, and chess player R. Praggnanandhaa's FIDE World Cup heroics.

Just because Neeraj makes it look easy, doesn't mean it is. "Aise nahin hai ki pressure ko bandhu bana ke rakha hai (It's not that I've made pressure my friend)," he jokes.

The inspiration for making one and done throws in qualification came from the 2017 Worlds in London, where he didn't make the final.

"I took things easy then. I learned that I have to go hard at the start. I can't just give 70 per cent and think I'll give everything in the final."

Bol hurdles to glory; Williams and Watson bring joy to Jamaica

Agence France-Presse
BUDAPEST

Flying Dutchwoman: Bol leads Little in the 400m hurdles final. REUTERS

Femke Bol struck gold in the 400m hurdles amid an unexpected Jamaican double gold rush at the World Athletics Championships here on Thursday.

The 23-year-old Dutch runner made up for the disappointment of falling with the line at her mercy in the mixed 4x400m relay by producing a totally dominant victory in the hurdles in 51.70 seconds.

"I knew that 400m hurdles would be a chance to show up and I was confident. I have just had the best first 200 metres ever."

In the absence of defending world and Olympic champion Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone, American Shamier Little claimed silver in 52.80sec while Jamaica's Rushell Clayton took bronze, just a hundredth of a second slower.

Clayton's bronze was one of five medals Jamaica won out of a potential 15 on offer in the evening session of day six of action at the National Athletics Centre.

Two of those were surprise golds.

First Danielle Williams, who had previously won the 100m hurdles in Beijing in 2015, timed 12.43 seconds to edge out Olympic champion Jasmine Camacho-Quinn of Puerto Rico (12.44sec) with Kendra Harrison of the United States taking bronze (12.46).

Then came 21-year-old Antonio Watson, who also upset a loaded field including South African world record holder Wayde van Niekerk to win gold in the men's 400m.

Watson, 21, produced a perfectly-timed effort down the home straight to win in 44.22sec. Britain's Matthew Hudson-Smith claimed silver in 44.31sec, with American Quincy Hall taking bronze (44.37).

Tentoglou delivers

It looked like there might have been a third Jamaican gold in the men's long jump, but Greece's Olympic champion Miltiadis Tentoglou went out to 8.52 metres with his sixth and final jump to push Wayne Pinnock (8.50m) into silver position. Pinnock's Jamaican teammate Tajay Gayle claimed bronze with a 8.27m.

The second field event of the night saw Camryn Rogers win the women's hammer World title with a 77.22m to give Canada its second gold in the event at the championships after Ethan Katzberg was crowned men's champion at the weekend.

Last year's bronze medallist Janee' Kassanavoid of the United States finishing second (76.36m) ahead of teammate DeAnna Price (75.41).

Indian team begins its practice

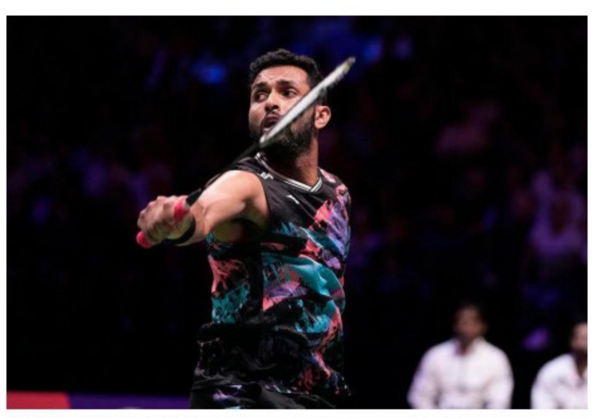
Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

Away from the city's din and media glare, Rohit Sharma's men trained behind closed doors at the Alur Grounds here on Friday.

While police and private security were deployed at the gates to turn away those who would come to get a glimpse of the cricketers – both the media and fans – the host broadcaster Star Sports was allowed, and it even put out a video of the preparations on Instagram.

If the first day of the camp on Thursday was reserved for fitness tests, Friday saw the Indian players indulge in cricketing drills under the guidance of head coach Rahul Dravid and his support staff.

Gritty Prannoy dethrones Axelsen



Fighting display: Prannoy brought his A-game to put paid to Axelsen's hopes and assure himself of a medal. AP

BADMINTON WORLDS

Press Trust of India
COPENHAGEN

H.S. Prannoy played out of his skin to stun two-time defending champion and top seed Viktor Axelsen of Denmark in a thrilling 68-minute quarterfinal to ensure a medal for India in the World Championships here on Friday.

Prannoy again showed big-match temperament as he fought back to outwit the World No. 1 13-21, 21-15, 21-16 in-front of the latter's home crowd at the Royal Arena.

The 31-year-old, seeded ninth, will take on third-seeded Kunlavut Vitidsarn of Thailand on Saturday for a place in the summit clash.

Earlier, Satwiksairaj and Shetty missed out on a second Worlds medal after suffering a straight-game loss to Kim Astrup and Anders Skaarup Rasmussen of Denmark in the quarterfinals.

The World No. 2 Indian pair, which had claimed a bronze in the last edition, went down 18-12, 19-21 to the 11th seeded combination, the 2021 bronze winners, in 48 minutes.

Sethuraman closes in on second title

NATIONAL CHESS

Rakesh Rao
PUNE

S.P. Sethuraman's relentless pursuit for a second National chess title brought him within a draw of achieving his goal after overpowering Neelash Saha in 53 moves in the 10th and penultimate round here on Friday.

Winner in 2014, third seed Sethuraman played black and seized an advantage by trapping the white bishop by the 18th move. On the 36th move, Sethuraman traded his rook for a knight.

Armed with a bishop, knight and a rook for Saha's rook pair, Sethuraman gained decisively from his rival's rook-move on the 40th turn.

Solid upper hand

Soon, Sethuraman's resources proved too much to handle for Saha, who resigned when facing a loss of another pawn or an imminent exchange of rooks.

The victory raised Sethuraman's tally to nine points – one ahead of nearest rivals Abhijeet Gupta, Abhimanyu Puranik, Diptayan Ghosh, Aronyak Ghosh, Mitrabha Guha, Vishnu Prasanna and N.R. Vignesh.

So far, a performance level of 2657 against his rating of 2591 has given Sethuraman 15 rating points which should help him return to the 2600-bracket soon.

The 11-round event has seen players from Tamil Nadu and Bengal – some of them representing Petroleum and Railways – among the front-runners.

Exceptions Abhijeet and Puranik, seeded one and two, will look for a strong finish to take a high spot among the top-10 who share a tidy prize-fund of ₹30 lakh.

Important results (10th round): Neelash Saha (7.5) lost to S.P. Sethuraman (9); Aronyak Ghosh (8) drew with Diptayan Ghosh (8); N. R. Vignesh (8) drew with Vishnu Prasanna (8); Sayantan Das (7) lost to Abhijeet Gupta (8); Abhimanyu Puranik (8) bt G. Akash (7); Mitrabha Guha (8) bt Deepan Chakkravarthy (7); L. R. Srihari (7.5) drew with P. Iniyan (7.5).

Norris tops second session

Reuters
ZANDVOORT

McLaren's Lando Norris denied home hero Max Verstappen a perfect Friday by keeping the dominant Red Bull driver off the top of the timesheets in second practice for the Dutch Grand Prix. Verstappen had set the pace in the opening session when he lapped Zandvoort's seaside circuit with a best time of one minute 11.852 seconds.

Norris was fastest overall, however, with a lap of 1:11.330 in the late afternoon, 0.023 quicker than the double Formula One world champion.

While the Briton went top, McLaren team mate Oscar Piastri was involved in a double Australian crash with AlphaTauri's Daniel Ricciardo. Piastri hit the tyre wall early on at the banked turn three and Ricciardo, with nowhere else to go, followed him into the barriers and red flags were waved. Ricciardo looked to be in some pain as he struggled to get out of the car and was taken to hospital for checks on his wrist.

Indian men prevail over Bangaladesh, enter final

ANI
BIRMINGHAM

The Indian men's blind cricket team on Friday defeated Bangladesh by seven wickets to become the second finalist of the ongoing International Blind Sports Federation (IBSA) World Games 2023.

India restricted Bangladesh to 144 for six in the allotted 20 overs and then chased down the target with 18 balls to spare in the semifinal match.

India will meet Pakistan on Saturday in the final.

India to send 634 athletes to Asiad

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

A record number of 634 sportspersons were on Friday cleared by the Sports Ministry to compete at the Hangzhou Asian Games, surpassing the 572 athletes in the last edition of continental showpiece in Jakarta in 2018.

The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) had recommended 850 athletes for event to be held in Hangzhou from Sept. 23. Track and field events have got the pride of place as 65 athletes – 34 men and 31 women– are part of the event.

Sportspersons in 38 disciplines have been cleared, with a total of 44 footballers – 22 players each in men's and women's sections. Hockey constitutes the third-highest number of athletes at 36, with the ministry clearing 18 players each in the men's and women's sections.

The list also includes the men's and women's cricket teams, comprising 15 members each.

The ministry has included the name of wrestler Bajrang Punia (65kg) in the list, going with the IOA adhoc panel's decision to recommend his name without appearing for the Asian Games trials last month.

Blasters overpower Warriors, taste their first success

Skipper Mayank's century and debutant off-spinner Mohsin's four-wicket haul cornerstones of the victory; Tigers subdue Lions

MAHARAJA CUP

Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru Blasters notched up its first win in the Maharaja Trophy KSCA T20 after going past Mysuru Warriors by 11 runs at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here on Friday.

A fine century from Mayank Agarwal (105 off 57 balls) and a four-wicket haul by debutant off spinner Mohsin Khan (4/35) helped Bengaluru overpower Mysuru in a high-scoring outing.

D. Nischal (29) supported his skipper Mayank in a 97-run partnership for the second wicket. Suraj Ahuja provided the big finish, striking an unbeaten 35 off 10 balls. Mysuru openers S.U. Karthik (70 off 30 balls) and R. Samarth (35 off 16 balls) gave the side an electric start. Karthik brought up the fastest half century of the tournament, in 22 balls.

In his element: Mayank's ton catapulted Blasters to well beyond the 200-run mark. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Mohsin and left-arm wrist spinner Sarfaraz Ashraf (2/23) turned the game in Bengaluru's favour.

In another encounter, Hubli Tigers defeated Shivamogga Lions by three wickets. K.L. Shrijith (50) and Manvanth Kumar (27) helped Hubli reach the 131-run target with eight balls to spare.

The scores: Bengaluru Blasters 212/4 in 20 overs (Mayank Agarwal 105, Suraj Ahuja 35 n.o., D. Nischal 29) bt Mysuru Warriors 202/8 in 20 overs (S.U. Karthik 70, R. Samarth 35, Karun Nair 32, Mohsin Khan 4/35).

Shivamogga Lions 130 in 20 overs (Kranthi Kumar 34, Shreyas Gopal 31) lost to Hubli Tigers 131/7 in 18.4 overs (K.L. Shrijith 50, Manvanth Kumar 27, Shreyas Gopal 4/30).

Indian women bag free pistol gold

Sports Bureau

The women's free pistol team helped India sign off from the World shooting championship on a golden note in Baku, Azerbaijan, on Friday. India wound up second on the medals' table with six gold and eight bronze medals.

China was on top with 15 gold, seven silver and six bronze. USA was third with five gold, two silver and a bronze.

Tiyana Phogat, Sakshi Suryavanshi and Kirandeep Kaur won the 50-metre free pistol team gold with a total of 1573, six points ahead of China. Tiyana also won the individual bronze with 533 as she missed silver by one point.

The results:

Team: 1. China 1655; 2. Korea 1654; 3. India 1646 (Ravinder, Kamaljeet, Vikram).

Women: 1. Sylvia Steiner (Aut) 540; 2. Bayartsetseg Tumurchudur (Mgl) 534; 3. Tiyana Phogat 533; 5. Sakshi Suryavanshi 531; 11. Kirandeep Kaur 509.

Team: 1. India (Tiyana, Sakshi, Kirandeep) 1573; 2. China 1567; 3. Mongolia 1566.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Girish, Geetha reign
Girish Gaba and Geetha Poojary secured the men's and women's titles respectively at the K. Damodar & Co. Karnataka State Tenpin Bowling Championships on Friday.

Facile win for Bangalore Independents
Bangalore Independents FC defeated Roots FC 2-0 in the BDFA Super Division football league on Friday.

The results: Bangalore Independents FC 2 (Saravana Kumar 15, R. Shivakumar 26) bt Roots FC 0.

Bangalore Dream United FC 1 (Tobom Langkam 73) drew with ASC & Center FC 1 (Chanambam Samananda Singh 69).

LIVE TELECAST

Maharaja Trophy T20: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & FanCode, 1 & 5.30 p.m,.

BWF World Championships: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 1.30 p.m. onwards

Afghanistan vs Pakistan: 3rd ODI, FanCode, 3 p.m.

Premier League: SS Select 1, 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 5, 7.30 & 10 p.m.

Durand Cup: Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 6 p.m.

Formula One: Dutch GP (Qualifying), F1 TV & F1 TV Pro App, 6.30 p.m.

Bundesliga: Sony LIV, 7 p.m.; Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 10 p.m.

LaLiga: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 10.30 p.m. & 1 a.m. (Sunday)

Serie A: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 10 p.m. & 12.15 a.m. (Sunday)

Avani Prashanth victorious in Ahlsell Final tournament

GOLF

Sports Bureau

Indian amateur Avani Prashanth claimed the Ahlsell Final golf tournament title at Elisefarm Golf Club (Sweden).

Avani became the first Indian to win on the LET Access Series – the official development tour to the Ladies European Tour.

The 16-year-old carded a six-under 210 overall to edge out her nearest rivals Isabell Ekstrom (Sweden) and Matilda Bjorkman (Sweden) by one shot.

Avani. LET ACCESS SERIES

Avani, who started the final round in tied-ninth spot, climbed to the top with a stellar five-under 67. She was particularly impressive on the back-nine, recording three birdies and an eagle. This more than made up for the early slips - bogeys on the first and fourth holes. The teenager was four shots off the lead after the front-nine.

Fellow golfer Vidhatri Urs, who missed the cut, acted as Avani's caddy on Friday.

"This is my first professional win on international soil. The wind completely switched on us today which really made the first four holes super long and tough to play. After nine holes, I came back to par and saw the wind was down in the back nine. I really took advantage from there on," Avani told the LET Access Series website.

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